BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY

YEAR BOOK

Dear Class of 2015,

I am writing you this letter in the spring of 2015, but I know you won't read it. You are all way too busy in the spring of 2015 planning the next exciting steps in your lives to read a yearbook letter from your Headmaster. You're going to flip right past this letter to your pictures and your friends' pictures and then put this yearbook on a shelf.

Don't get me wrong, this isn't to say I think my letter will remain always unread. I know you'll read it, but you'll read it when everyone else reads the letter in the front of their high school yearbook: years later. You'll read this letter when you're reminiscing, when high school is a vague memory you are trying to recall. So let me address the future you, the you who will pull this book down off the shelf years later and try to remember who the class of 2015 was. Let me use this letter to tell you who you were.

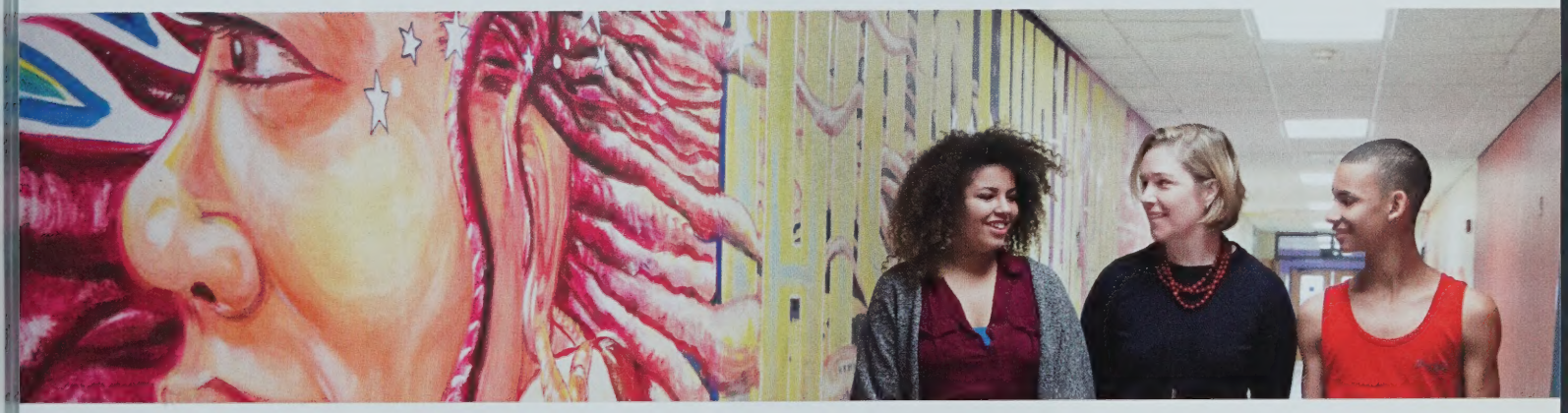
Class of 2015, you were talented, you were insightful, and you were committed to your art. I was proud of you on the many occasions when you achieved amazing things, but I was most proud of you when you were generous, as you often were, to your community and to each other. You were the artists, scholars, citizens that I imagined when I helped start the school in 1998. In short, you were a gift. You were a gift to Boston Arts Academy and a gift to me.

I hope you have fond memories of Boston Arts Academy. I hope you remember the Safety Assemblies and the Flash Mobs. I hope you remember the amazing shows: the senior VA show, Winterfest, Springfest, "In the Heights," Senior Theatre Show, and the Senior Music Recitals. I hope you remember the amazing artists who came to inspire and be inspired by you. I hope you remember the faculty and staff who worked with and for you to prepare you for your future, especially our beloved Ms. O'Halloran. But most of all I hope you remember each other. I know I will never forget you.

As I write this letter in 2015, I don't know what exactly what the future will bring. I know it will bring a renovated Boston Arts Academy. I believe it will bring many more amazing experiences, opportunities, and achievements for all of you. Boston Arts Academy was just the beginning.

Thank you for being an amazing class,

Ms. Clark

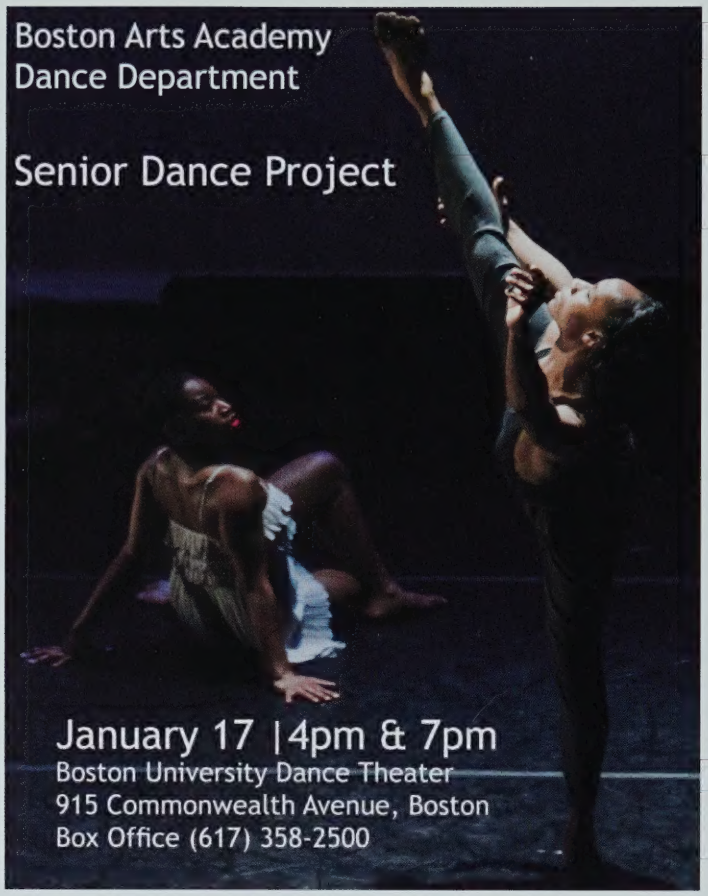


Yearbook Committee

Max Diers | Jeyrie Rodriguez | Aedan Clark | Yohanna Perez | Olivia Link | Yasmin Martinez| Heidi Petion | Advisor: Mónika Aldarondo

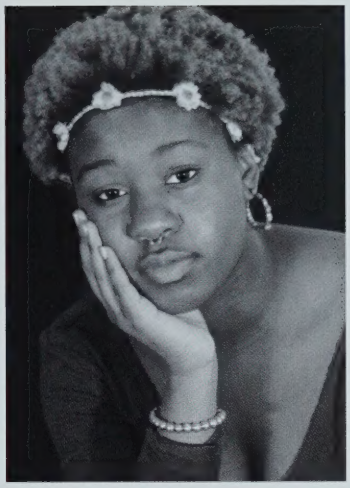
Cover Design by Aedan Clark
Portrait Photos by Phyllis Bretholz

DANCE DEPARTMENT

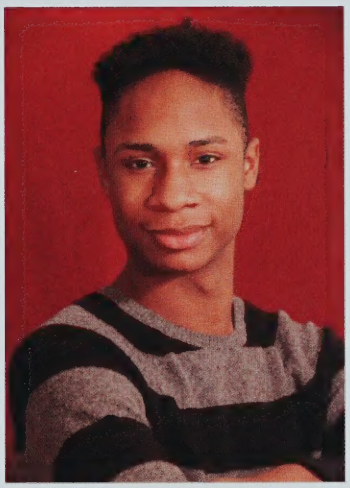


Gabriela Amy-Moreno
Kalia Bing
Zariyah Davis

Mirna Dominguez
Kiandrah Good-Eccles
Olivia Hart



Amara Headley
Khris Henry
Aireka Mercedes Hudson



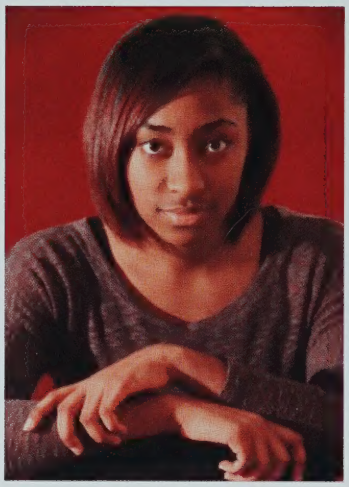
Nadia Issa
Andrea Michelle Juarez Ramirez
Miguel Lilly

Olivia Link
Estefania Londono
Sierra Payne

Mariah Potts
D'amoura Rackard
Brittney Rodriguez

Johvanny Rodriguez
Genesis Ariana Rodriguez-Maldonado
Jordanna Ryan

Britney Wilkerson
NaShaya Nadine Wornum



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Jazz Night

Berklee Performance Center
136 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston
Thursday, December 18
6pm

Tickets
$5 individuals
$10 families

Charles Street AME Church

551 Warren Street, Boston
Tuesday, December 16
6pm

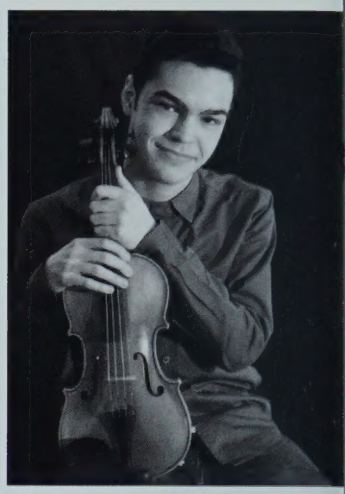
Classical Night

Boston Conservatory
132 Ipswich Street, Boston
Wednesday, December 17th
6pm

Vanessa Abello
Moses Abraham
Brendan Cornish

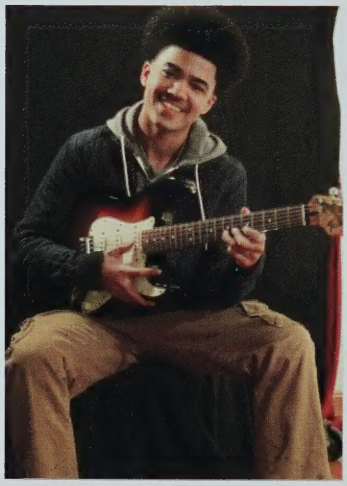
Miguel Diaz
Alicia Feliciano
Christoff Glaude

Desmond Hankins
Fabienne Rose Jean
Michael Lopez



Miguel "Guelo" Martinez
Oscar Pitre
Tal Rimoni

Antonio Shiell-Loomis
Joshua Sutherland
Chantel Tavarez



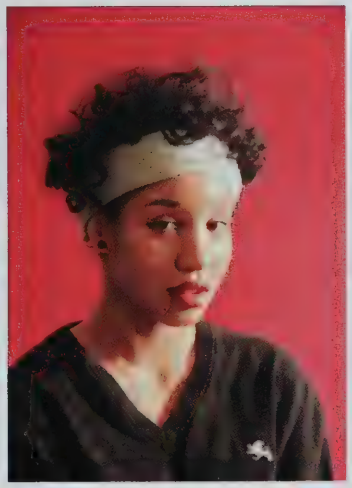
Ashley Villard
Joy Young

boston arts academy

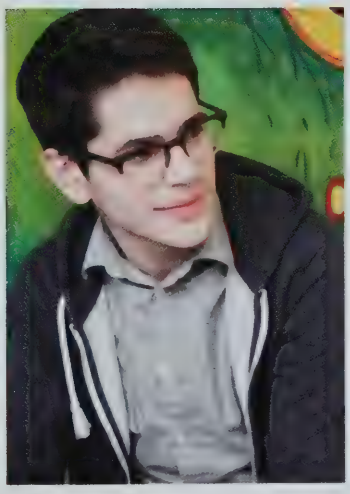
Class of 2015

Senior Music Recitals

VOCAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

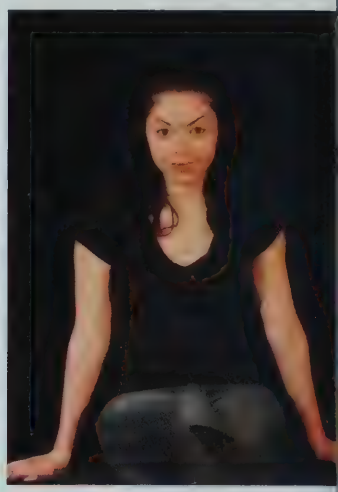


Nyasia Armand
Kayla Banks
Berline Charles

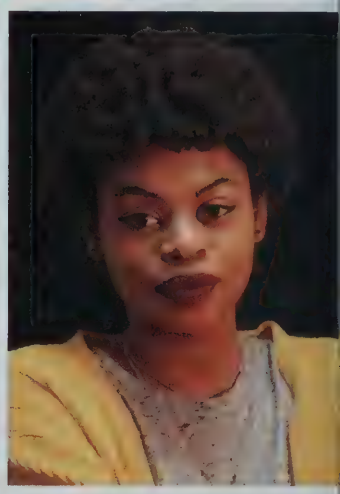


Royanna Ellis-Shepard
Alexander Fatato
Mahamma Germain

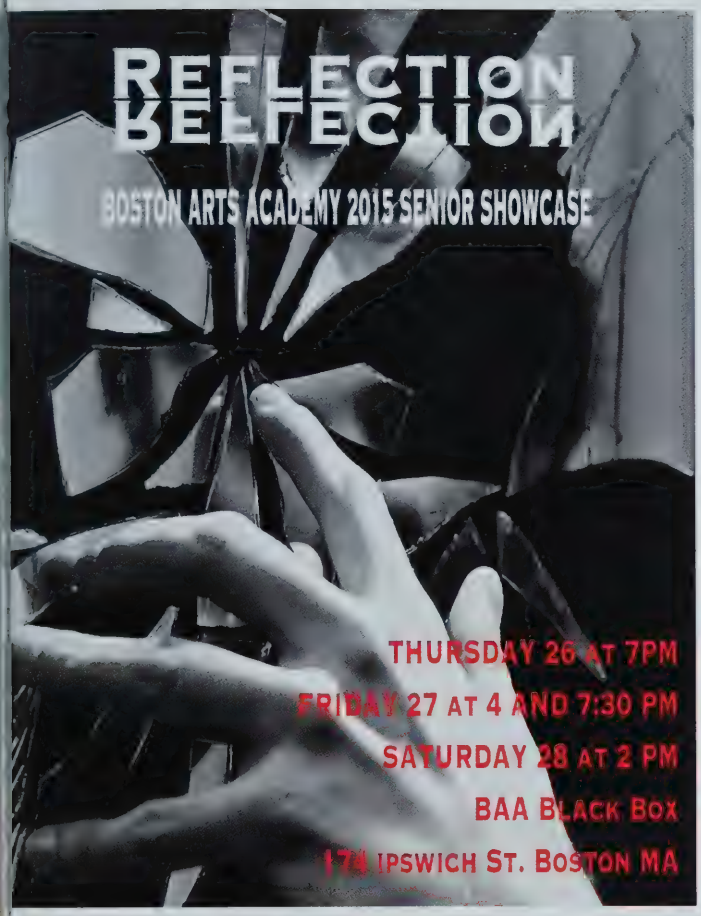
Ivette Gonzalez
Midiyanuel Troy Hawkins
Kanisha Machado



Kenisse Machado
Molly Martin
Amaiya Mitchell



Quazay Mungo
Heidi Petion
Adrian Pizzaro

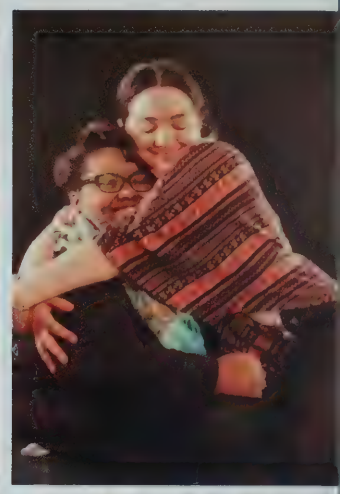


THEATRE DEPARTMENT

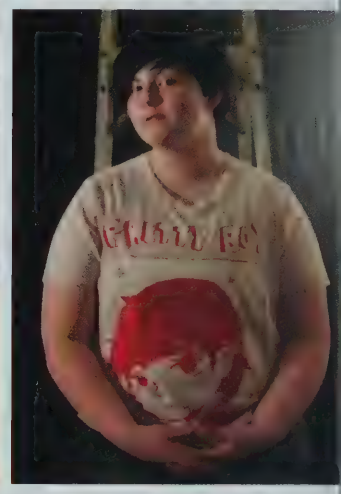
Meredith Baez
Jazmyne "Jazzy" Burgess
Fray Michael Cordero

Keila Fernandes
Nathan Gonzalez
Leatrae Gooding

Cassandra Guzman
Joanna Pabon
Sarel Peralta



Alejandrina Percel
Yohanna Perez
Aaron Piracini



Jeyrie Selena Rodriguez
Carlos Simental-Pedrero
Shanelle Chloe Villegas

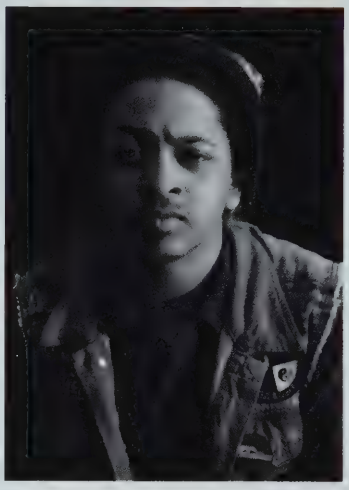
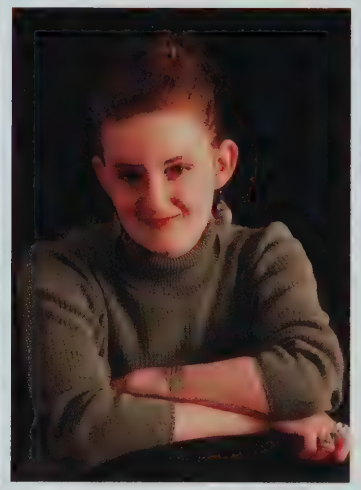
VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Gerry Ambroise
Aedan Clark
Sean Englert

Maximus Theodore Francis Diers
Isabelle Higgins
Jhair James

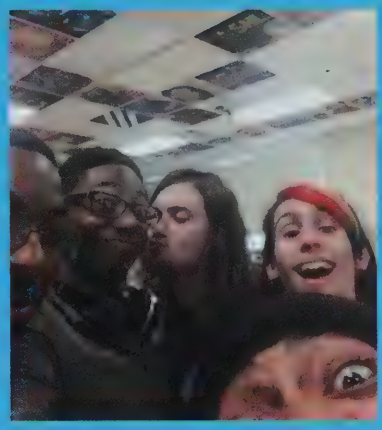
Perla Ledesma
Yasmin Danielle Martinez
Kaleem Mims

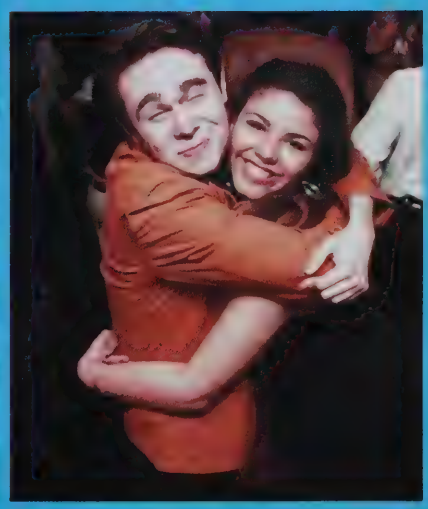
Daryl "LC" Raymond Newson-Grady
Emilia Onthank
Mariceliz Ortega

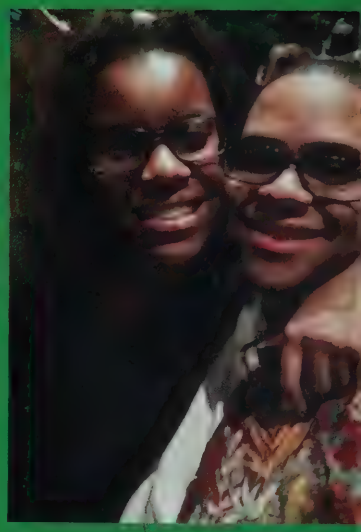



Angela Ortiz
Jaycob Shaquille Perez
Thandi Ramsey

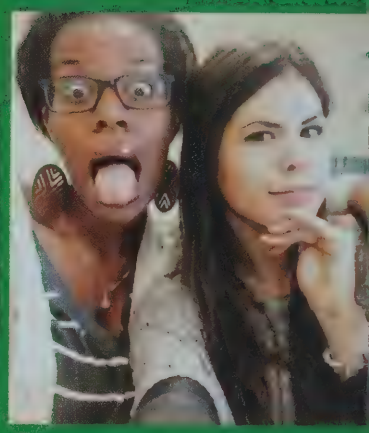
Michael G. Rosario-Noboa
Irene Sampson
Kafé Williams-Kalez



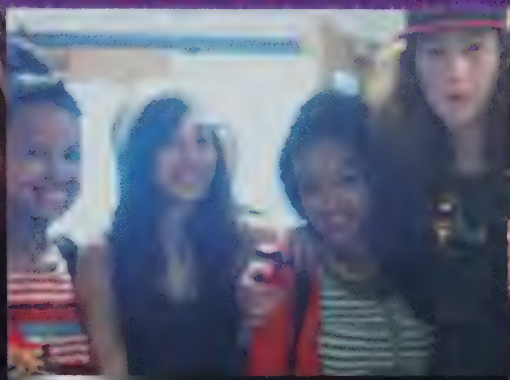




MUSIC DEPARTMENT



T-QUAD 2015

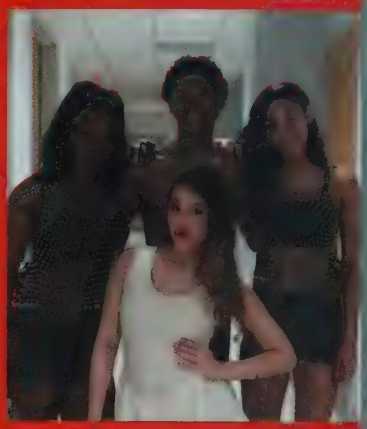


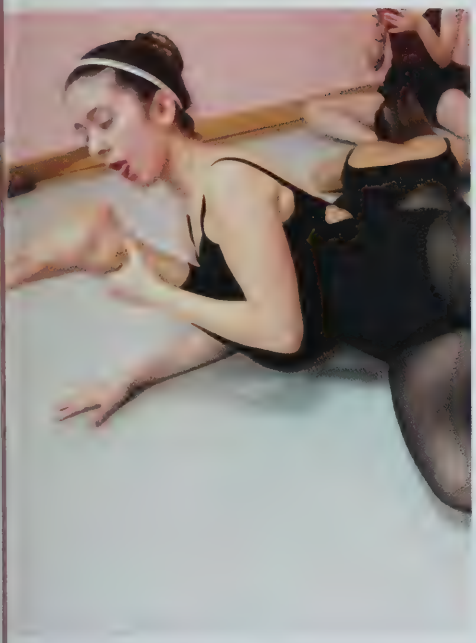
"Get in the zone... autozone" "Wada doon hay" "A lot of great work"

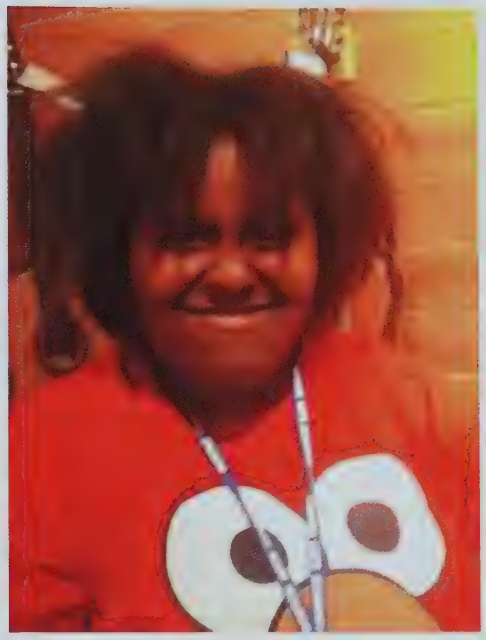
#TheatreProbs "Living in school" "Changing for Theatre" "Where is Trae?" "Tech week"

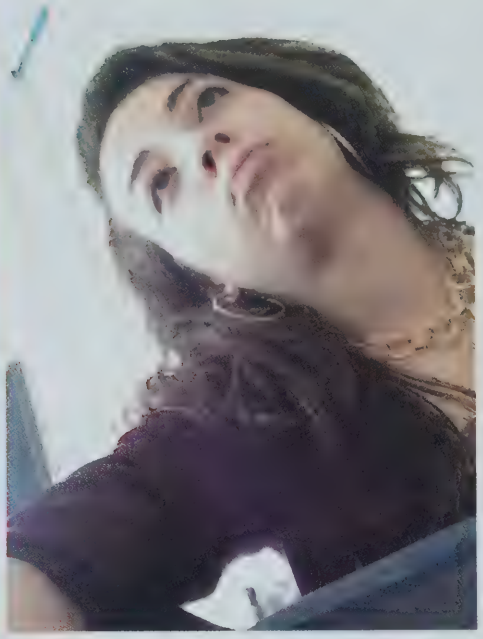
#Theatre Probs "Kissing" "9 times out of 10 ____" "Memorizing" "Trying to be normal"

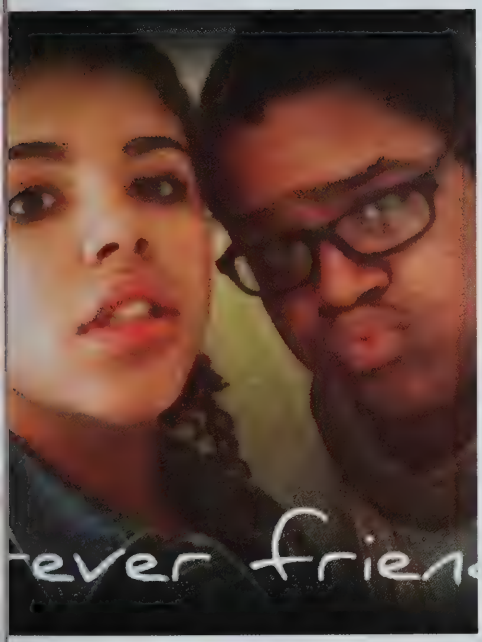
DANCE DEPARTMENT







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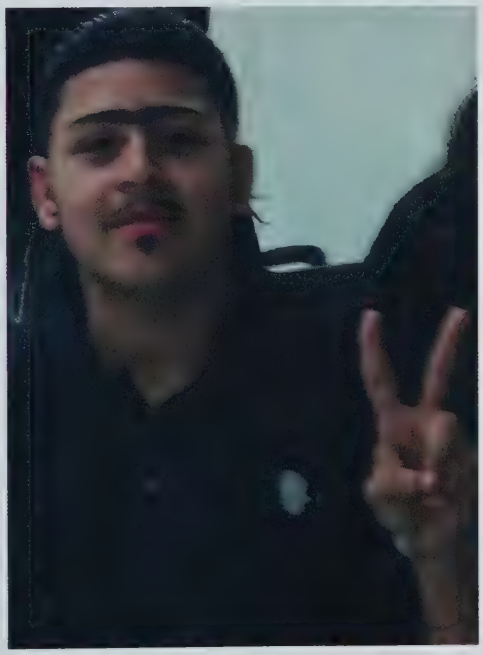

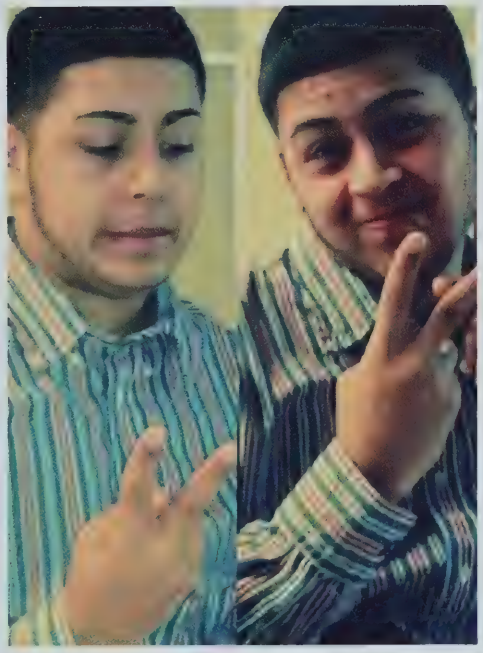

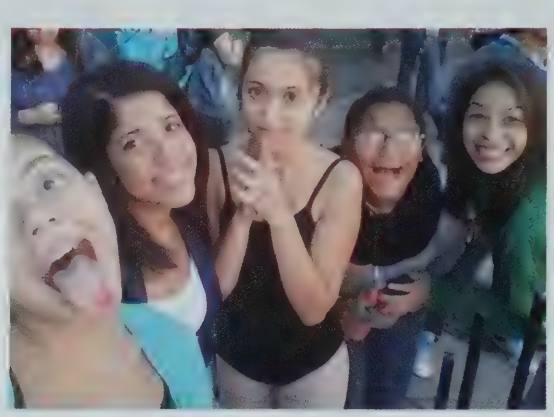

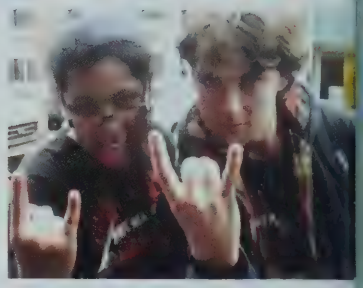

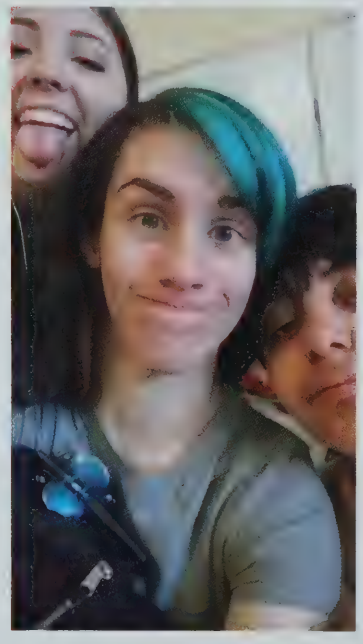

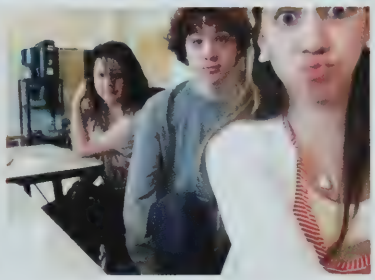

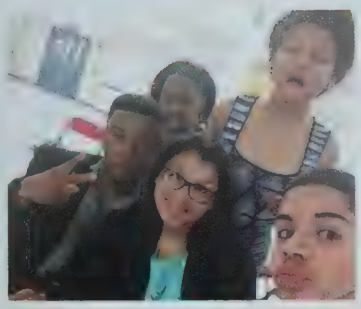

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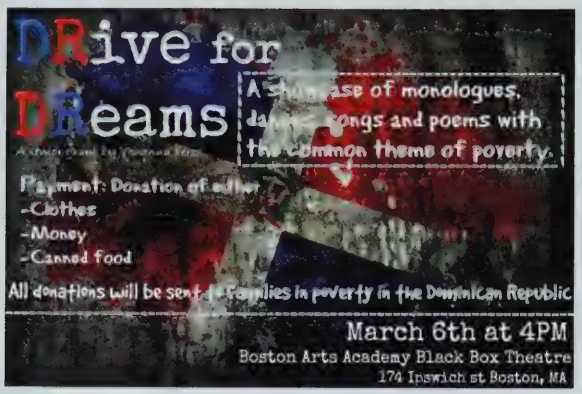
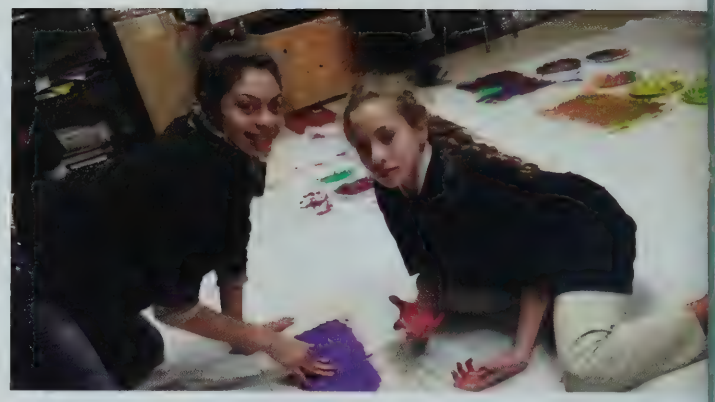
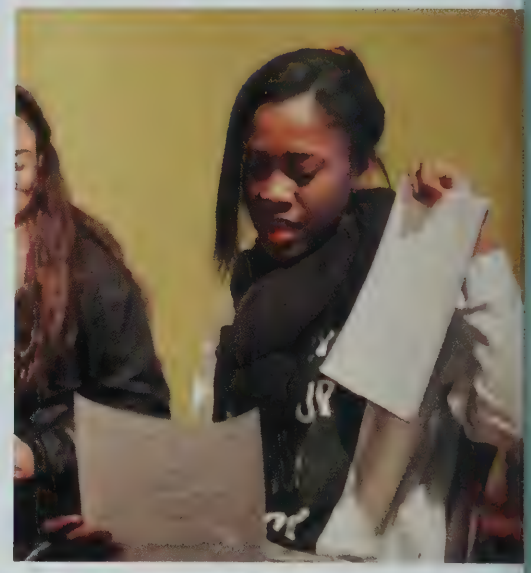
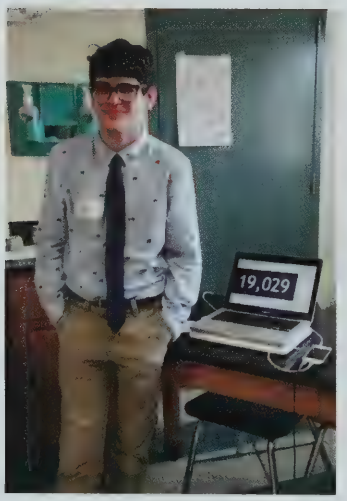








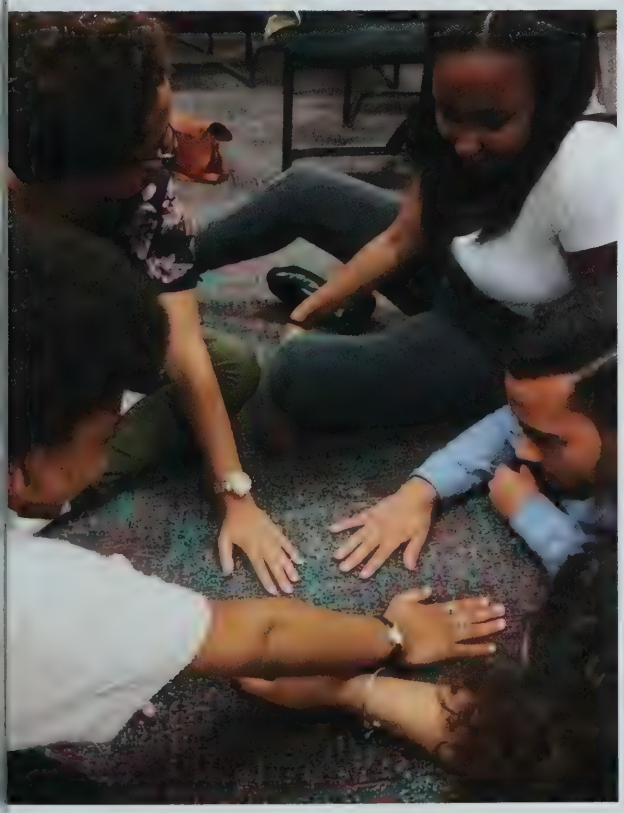
ARTIST SCHOLAR CITIZENS

ELMA LEWIS GRADUATES WITH DISTINCTION

Seniors who completed their Senior Grant Projects are Boston Arts Academy's Elma Lewis Graduates with Distinction.

Class of 2015

Max Diers | Sean Englert | Jhair James | Perla Ledesma | Yasmin Martinez | Emilia Onthank | Michael Rosario | Isabelle Higgins | Alex Fatato | Kanisha Machado | Heidi Petion | Andrea Juarez | Olivia Link | Genesis Rodriquez | Nadia Issa | Yohanna Perez | Keila Fernandes & Shanelle Villegas |



Grantees held workshops on a range of art forms and topics including painting, dance, self-esteem, and race. They created art work and music based on others' experiences of homelessness, sexism, and living with a family member who has autism. They created films on standardized testing and youth voice. They organized fundraisers and exhibitions to bring attention to the need for peace, pedestrian safety, and poverty.

SENIOR SUPERLATIVES!

Most likely to pursue their dream...

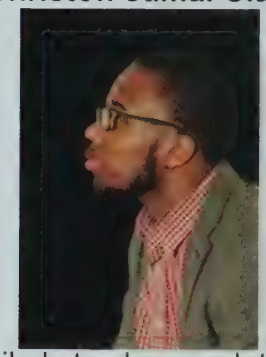
Leatrae Gooding

Most likely to be caught texting in class...

Kiandrah Good-Eccles

Most likely to be caught sleeping in class...

Christoff Jamal Claude



Most likely to be singing in the hallways...

Adrian Pizzaro

Most likely to find cures for a disease...

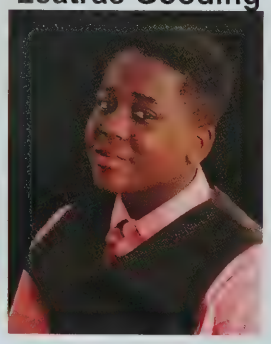
Olivia Link

Most likely to show up late for their own wedding...

Chris Henry

Most likely to be ID'd when they're 30...

Leatrae Gooding



Most likely to be caught reading...

Kafe Williams-Kalez

Most likely to invent something...

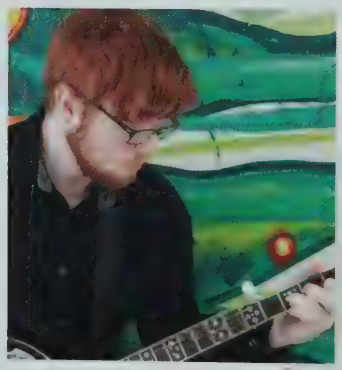
Brendan Cornish

Most likely to become president of the United States...

Nadia Issa

Most likely to take over the universe...

Brendan Cornish



Most likely to be Tumblr famous...

Isabelle Higgins

Most likely to be the cool mom/ dad...

Jeyrie Rodriquez

Most likely to cross over majors (tei)...

Jaycob Perez

Most likely to cross over majors (tie)...

Jazzy Burgess

Most likely to be found rehearsing/ creating late at night...

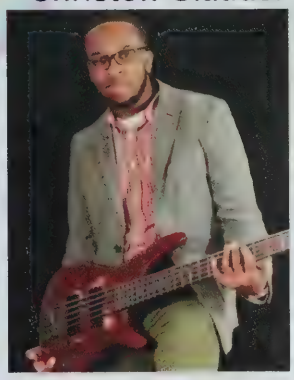
Chris Henry

Most fierce...

Genesis Rodriquez

Loudest nose blower..

Christoff Glaude.



Most hipster...

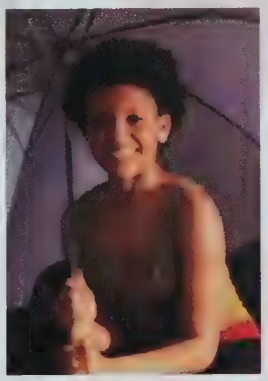
Aedan Clark

Most likely to be an unsung hero...

Jhair James

Best shoulder to cry on...

Nadia Issa



The knittiest...

Maximus Diers

Most Insightful...

Shanelle Chloe Villegas

Most lucious facial hair...

Sean Englert

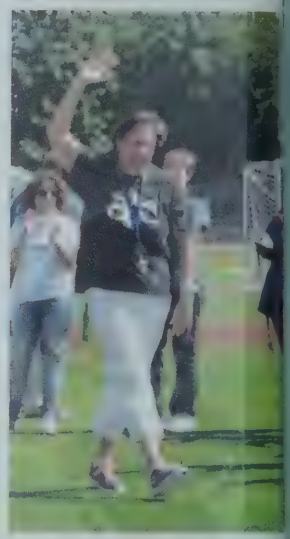
DEIDRE O'HALLORAN

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our dear colleague and friend, Deidre O'Halloran, Director of Student Activities. She passed away on Thursday, November 20 after a heroic battle with cancer.

Born and raised in Hollywood, Florida, Ms. O'Halloran moved to Boston in 1976 to attend college on a full tennis scholarship. She obtained a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Education from Boston University in 1982. For the next five years she worked for the Mass Department of Social Services as a social worker prior to entering the field of education.

Ms. O'Halloran came to Boston Arts Academy in 2003 as the school's first Wellness Coordinator. She was instrumental in building the Health and Wellness Team into the multi-service department it is today, providing counseling and support services to over 200 students and families a year. She also mentored Student Government, as well as supervised the formation of over two dozen student-affinity clubs, giving voice and access to students throughout the school. She gave us the gift and school-wide practice of Restorative Justice, a concept that focuses on the needs of the victims and the offenders, instead of just punishing the offender. In every sense of the word, Ms. O'Halloran was the heart of Boston Arts Academy and became the go-to person for anyone wanting to check-in on the needs of a single student or the general mood of the entire student body.

To her colleagues, Ms. O'Halloran always ensured that projects ran smoothly, with good humor and openness to new ideas and inspiration. She is the cornerstone upon which so many programs have been built. She will be sorely missed, but always remembered for her passion and commitment to BAA, its students, families, faculty and staff.



Students memories with Ms. O'Halloran

She would always smile at me in the hallway when I was having a good or bad day and ask me how I was doing.

When Advisory 14 bought Ms.O'Halloran flowers and a cake to show how much we appreciated her.

Ms. O'Halloran HATED when I swore. She would follow me around and would tell me to stop it. I hated it my freshman year. But as the years progressed O'Halloran would always be happy to see me and I cut down significantly on my swearing. I can still feel her cringe when I occasionally swear.

I strained my achilles in modern class and she tried to carry me, but it was such a fail! We both started dying! I love her!

She helped me find my advisory during my freshmen year.

My first year at Boston Arts Academy, entering as a 10th grader, I was lost for the first month, not knowing anything and scared out of my life when Ms. O'Halloran helped me out every day and made me feel safe with her kind and wonderful soul.

Thank you for being not only a teacher but a friend.

I remember emailing you while you were away on medical leave. You were so proud of the achievements I've done. I couldn't of done them without your love and support Ms. O'Halloran. Thank you for being the best advisor ever. I love you!
-Mahamma Germain
P.S. ADVISORY 14 TILL THE END!!!

Whenever I walk down the hallway and she would tell me to take my hat off and we'd joke around.
She helped me when I would often get lost around the school and guides me to where I need to be.
Student Government! Not the same without her.

I remember her yelling at me and Alicia for coming late to advisory, little did she know we were buying her a birthday cake and flowers, she started crying of joy!

I remember how she would always say how talented I was and even tell other people in the halls.

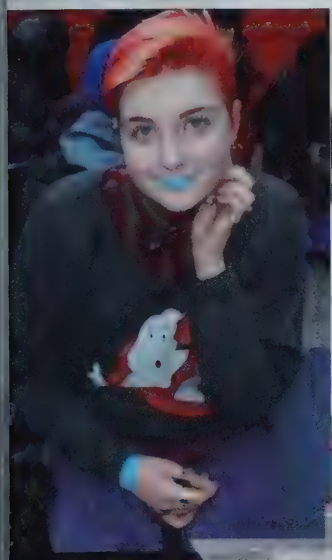
I swear she was my biggest fan at school.

Rest In Peace, Mom of BAA.

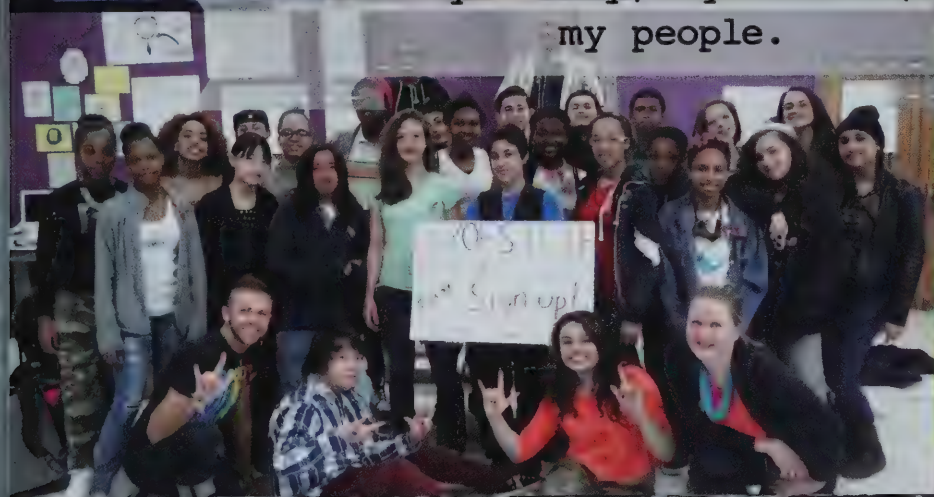
We will always love you.
Ms. O'Halloran, you won't ever be forgotten.

Maximus Theodore Francis Diers

"Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, If one only remembers to turn on the light."-Dumbledore



My family, my friends, my people.

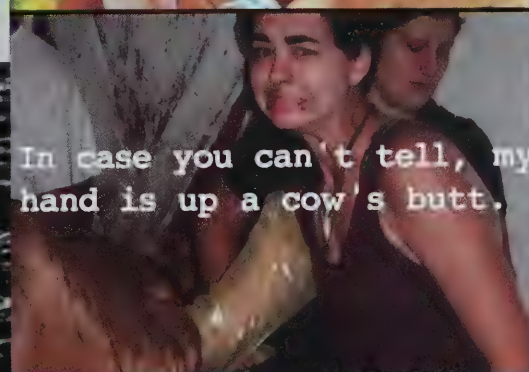


I have discovered my abilities in ways I never knew existed, and I am forever grateful.

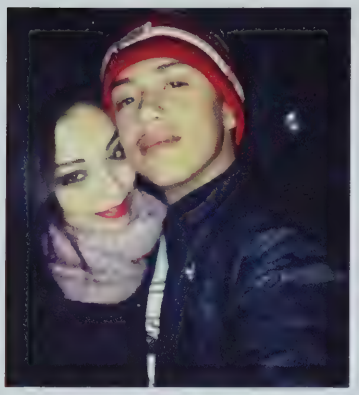
I hope to make the world a better place, and make my existence meaningful.

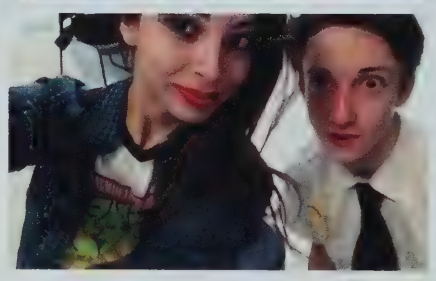
Plans:

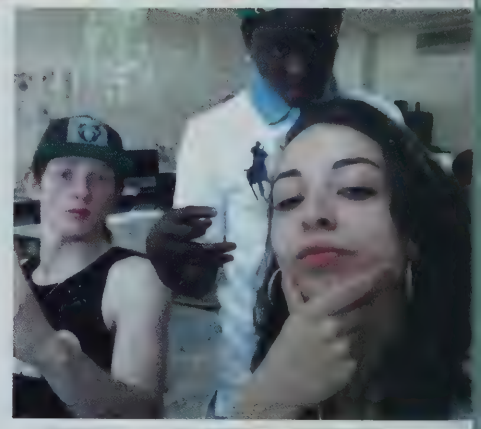
Hampshire College



In case you can't tell, my hand is up a cow's butt.

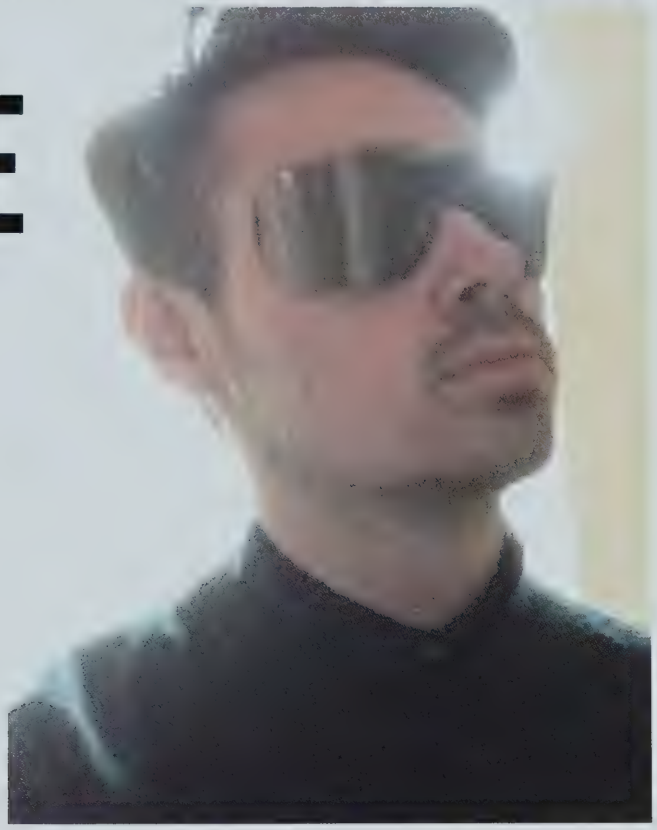


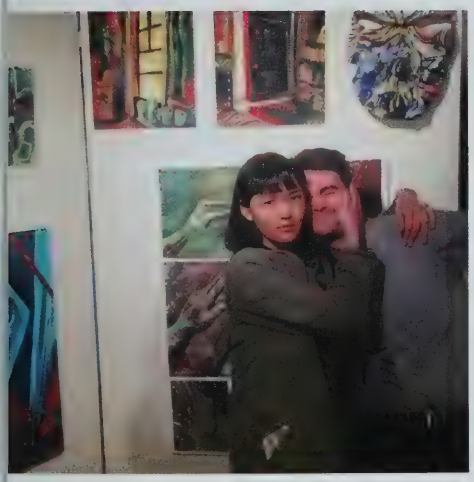


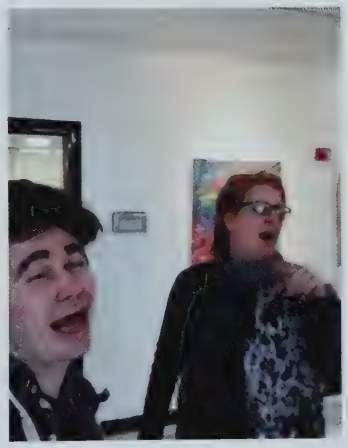


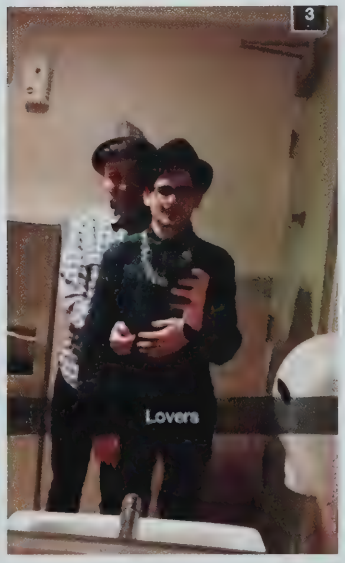
THE LIFE AND DEATH OF **AEDAN CLARK**

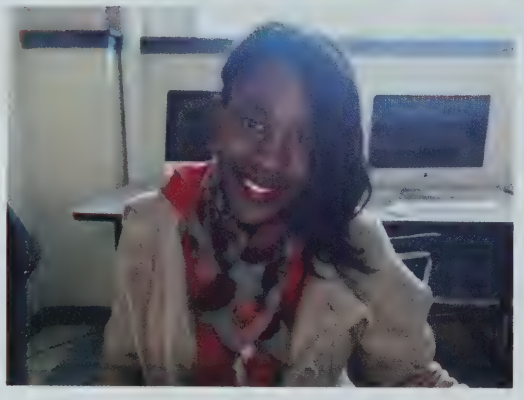
HOW'DE DOO

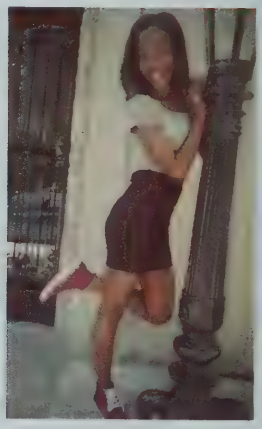












Queen Heidi

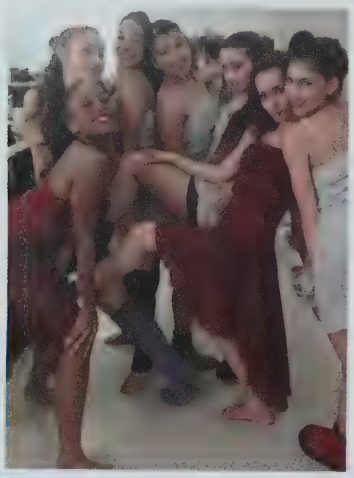
Thank you for an amazing four years filled with opportunities and unforgettable memories. I love and will miss you all so much.
-Yohannna Perez

The President and the Valedictorian
Best friends matching yogurts

Volunteering at the First Night Parade 2015

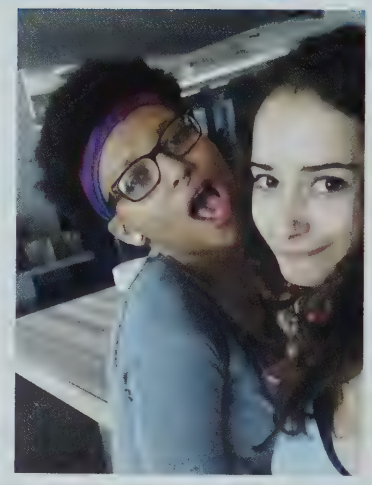
Senior Dance Project!!

Winterfest 2013



Springfest 2014

#tilt

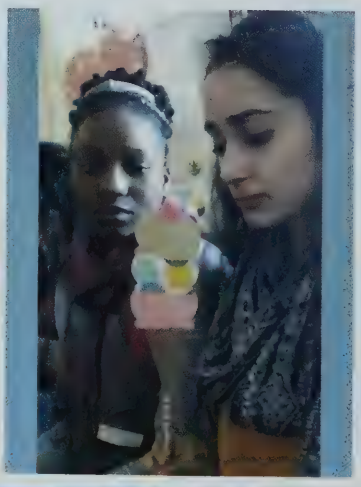


Volunteering at the Microsoft Center

Men of the Dance Department

Waited in a two hour long line to see Swan Lake

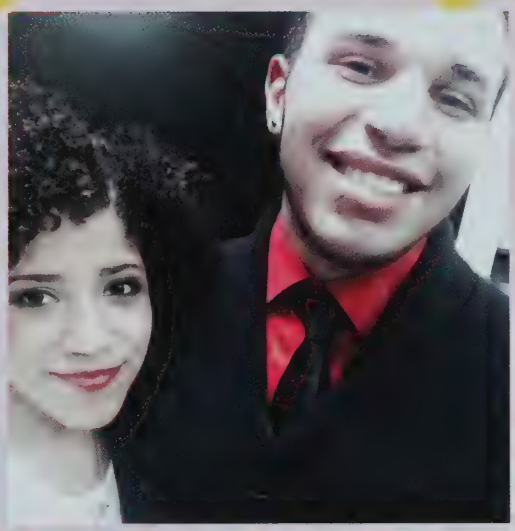
American Academy of Ballet

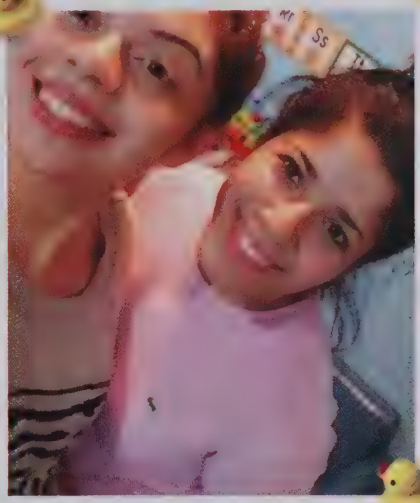


Co-choreographers: "dancer diets be like...fake food"

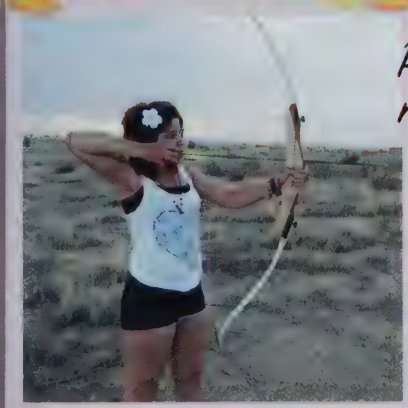
College auditions

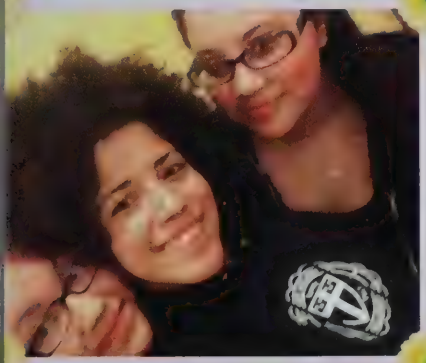
Yasmin Martinez

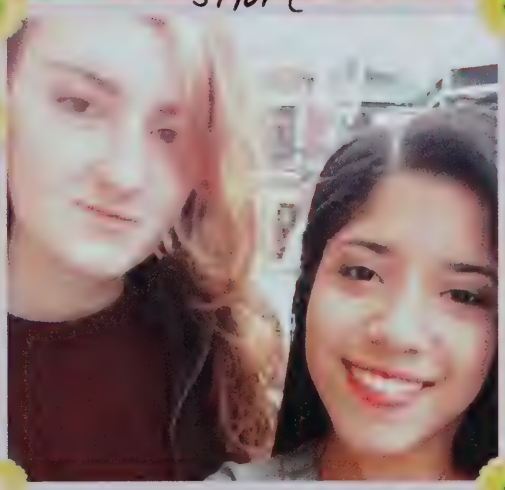




Thank you for these four years filled with laughter and tears. I feel blessed to have spent these years with the best people by my side. It made me realize you must do what you love and love what you do. Explore and try new things. life is short







Britney M

Thanks for 4 years of GREAT memories. I'll miss you all

#2015

Glo-up!

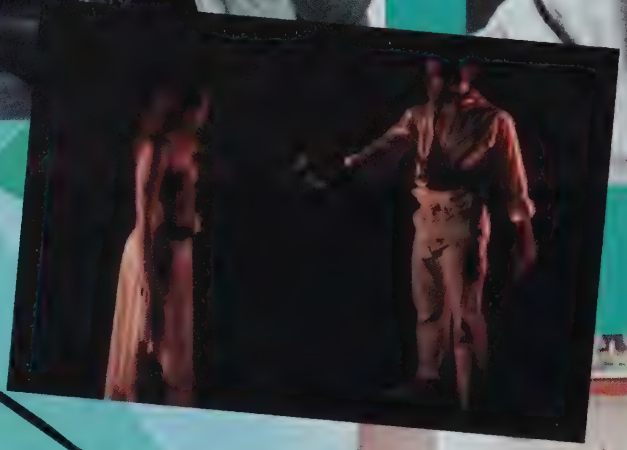
L.J.

A bond that can't be broken

HHHH
Love,
AYYYEEE BROO!!!!!

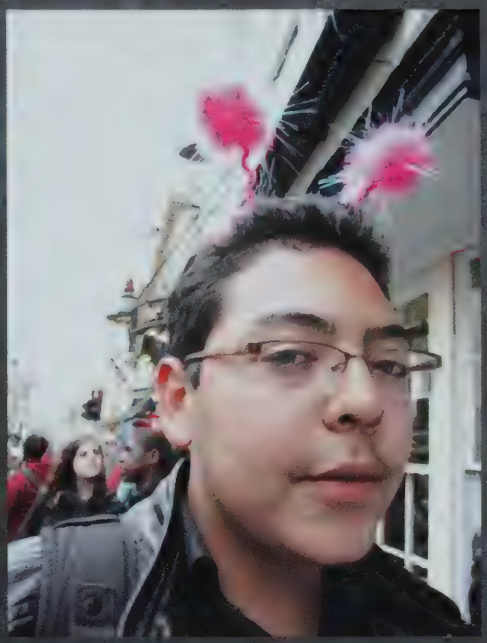
2015

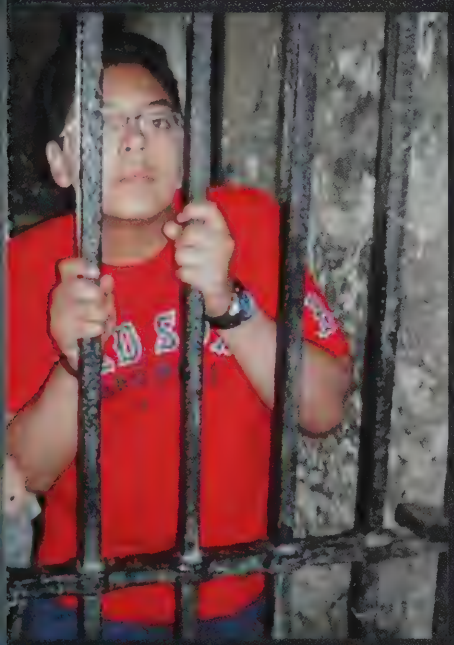
Unlike people who carry diaries or go to counseling, I use movement to tell my story!!



Genii from the block :)

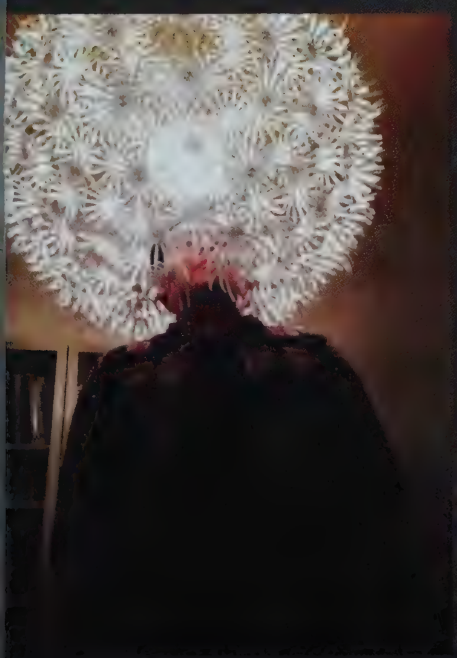
Everything I touch, feel and smell has an effect upon who I am as an artist. It is like being blindfolded and being forced to use the heart and mind to understand emotions.

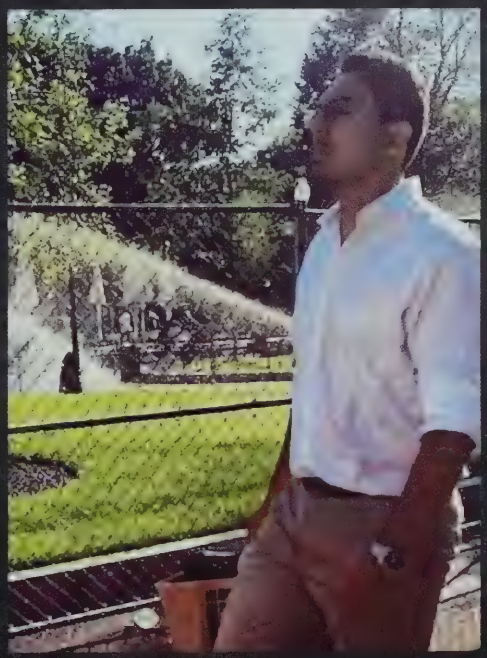




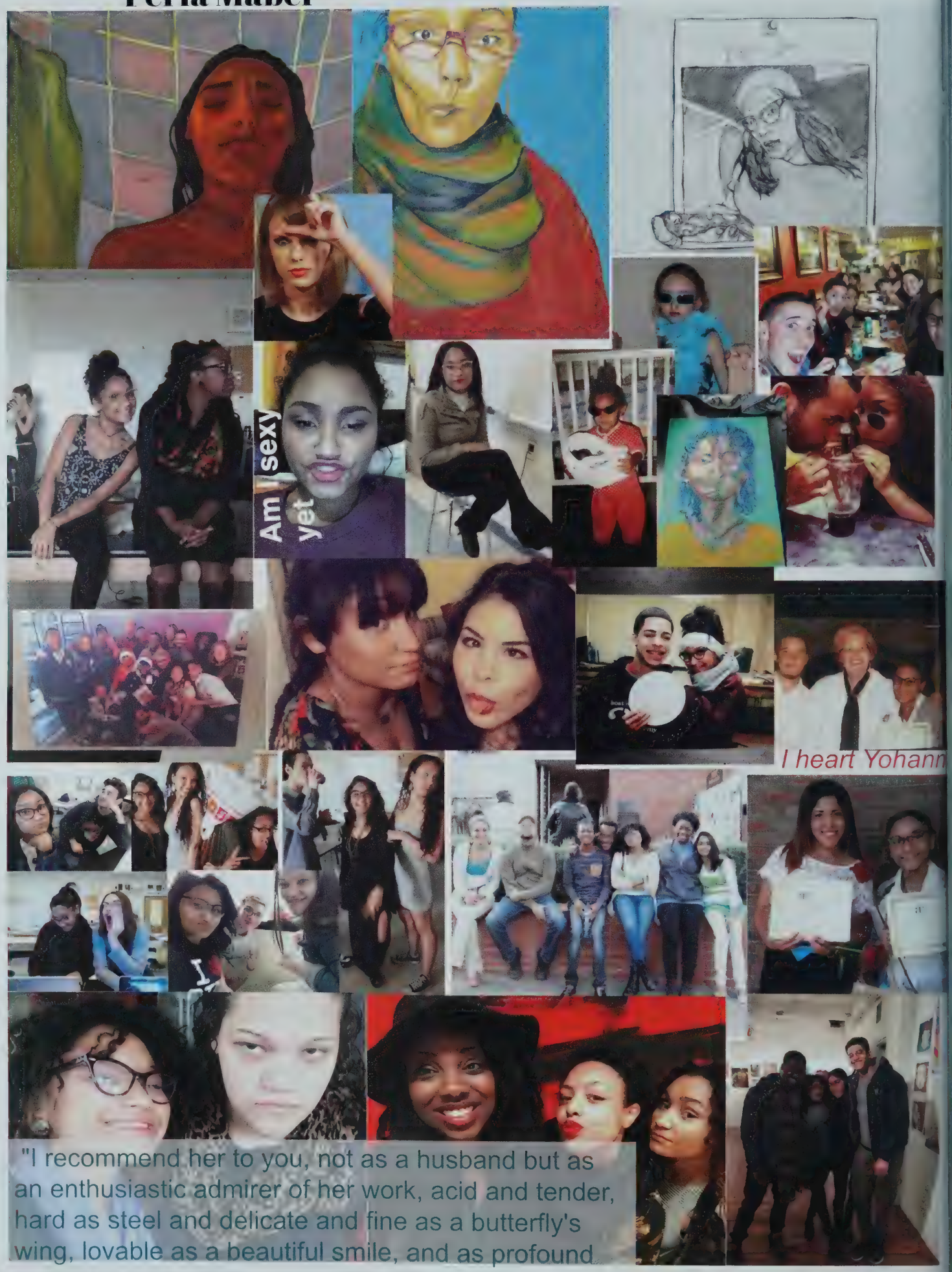
Cause Sumerton where most of the school can't spell my name right or otherwise know me as the Tall Mexican. Thank you for these four wonderfully terrible years of high school but I could not have gone anywhere better.
I WILL MISS ALL OF YOU AND HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL ACHIEVE THE GREATNESS THAT YOU DESERVE.

We're all pretty bizarre. Some of us are just better at hiding it, that's all.
-The Breakfast Club

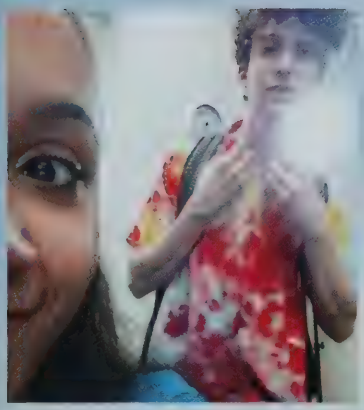




Perla Mabel



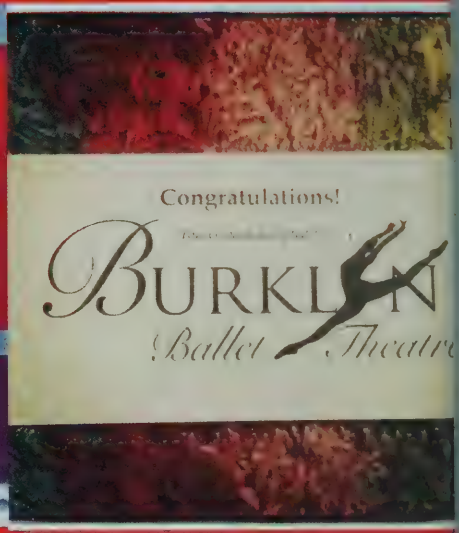
"I recommend her to you, not as a husband but as an enthusiastic admirer of her work, acid and tender, hard as steel and delicate and fine as a butterfly's wing, lovable as a beautiful smile, and as profound and cruel as the bitterness of life." Diego Rivera



2015

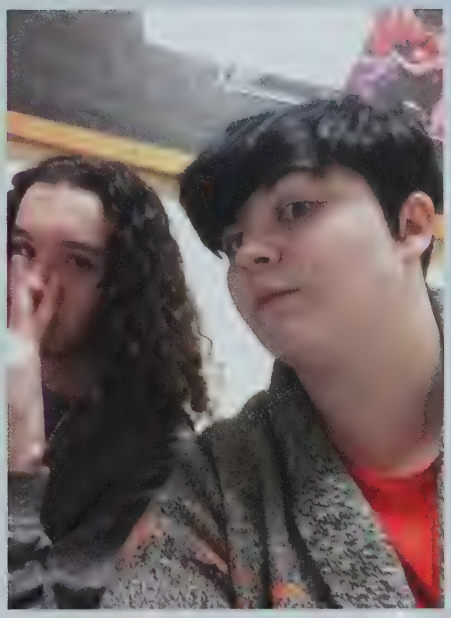
Keila Fernandes

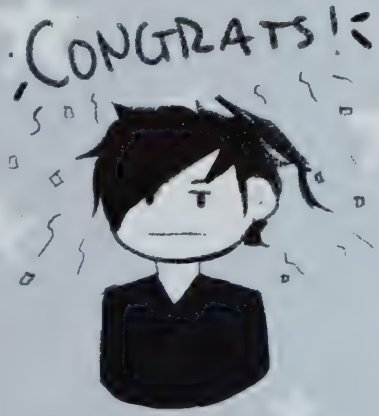
KHAKS



LIVE LAUGH LOVE

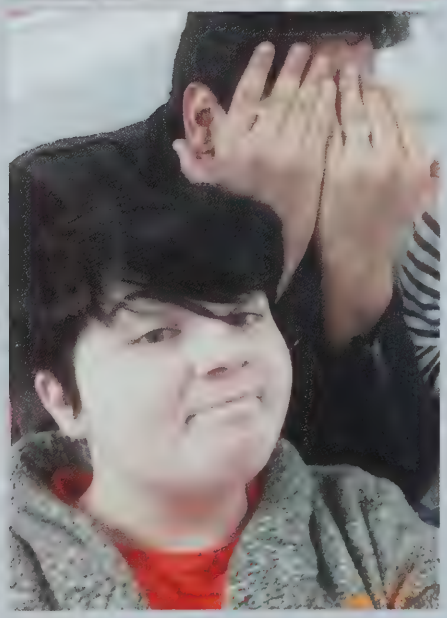
Aaron is Cool (/◕ヮ◕)/*:・゜✧



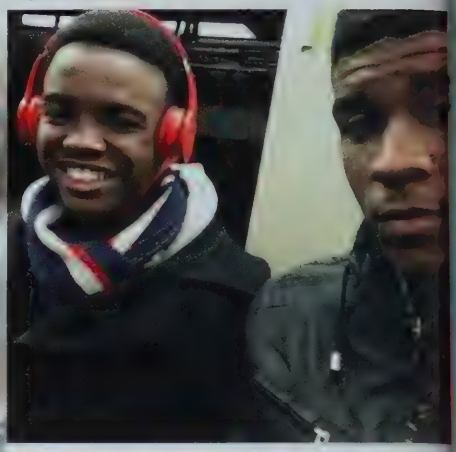


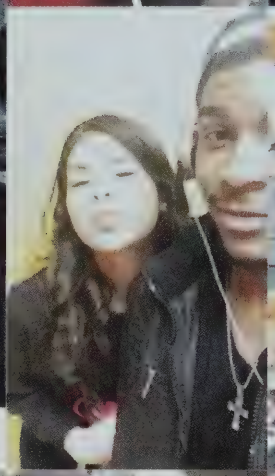
"You hear that? That's market bacon hitting the pan. Today a child is born unto us, and his name will be Bacon."

– Wallace Wells

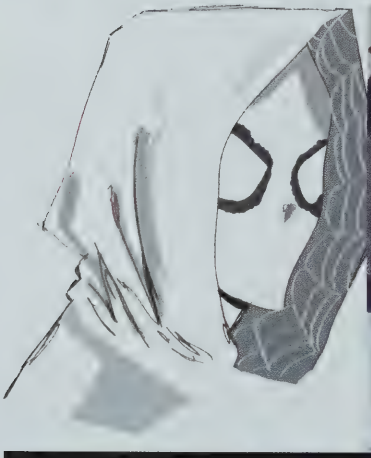


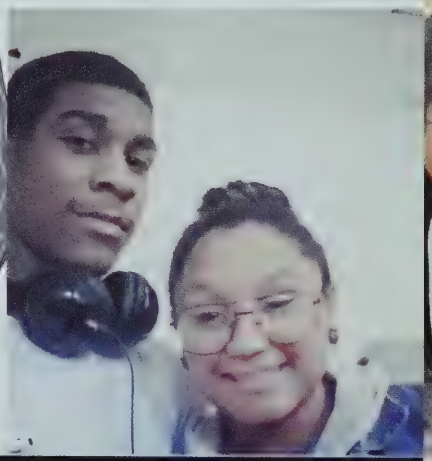
Gerry's Page LOSERSSS

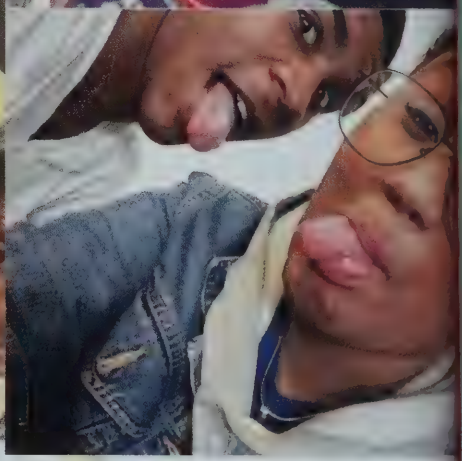


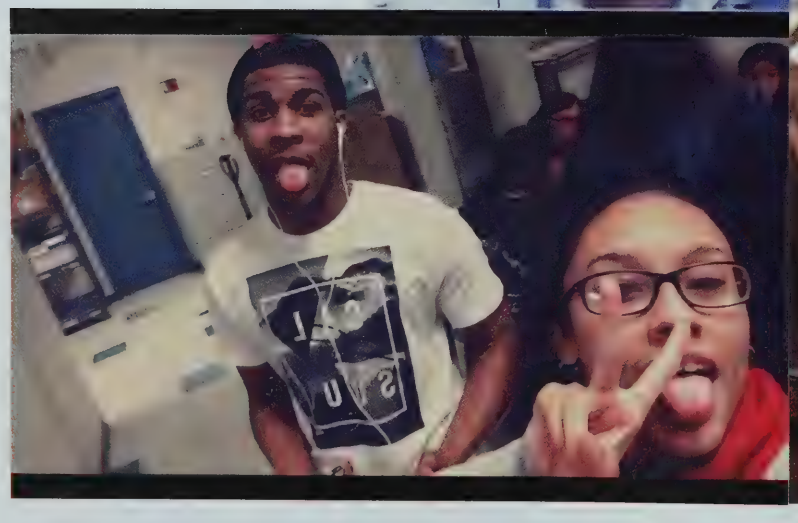


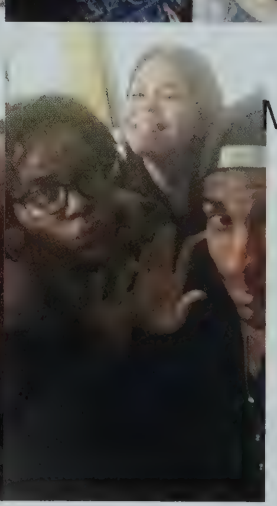
ARCAINE





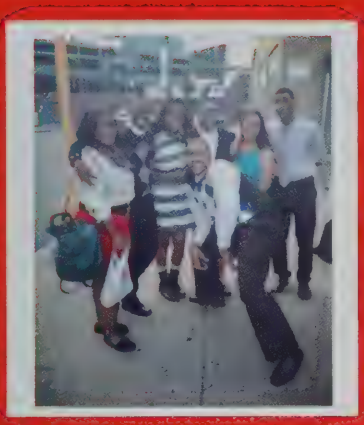


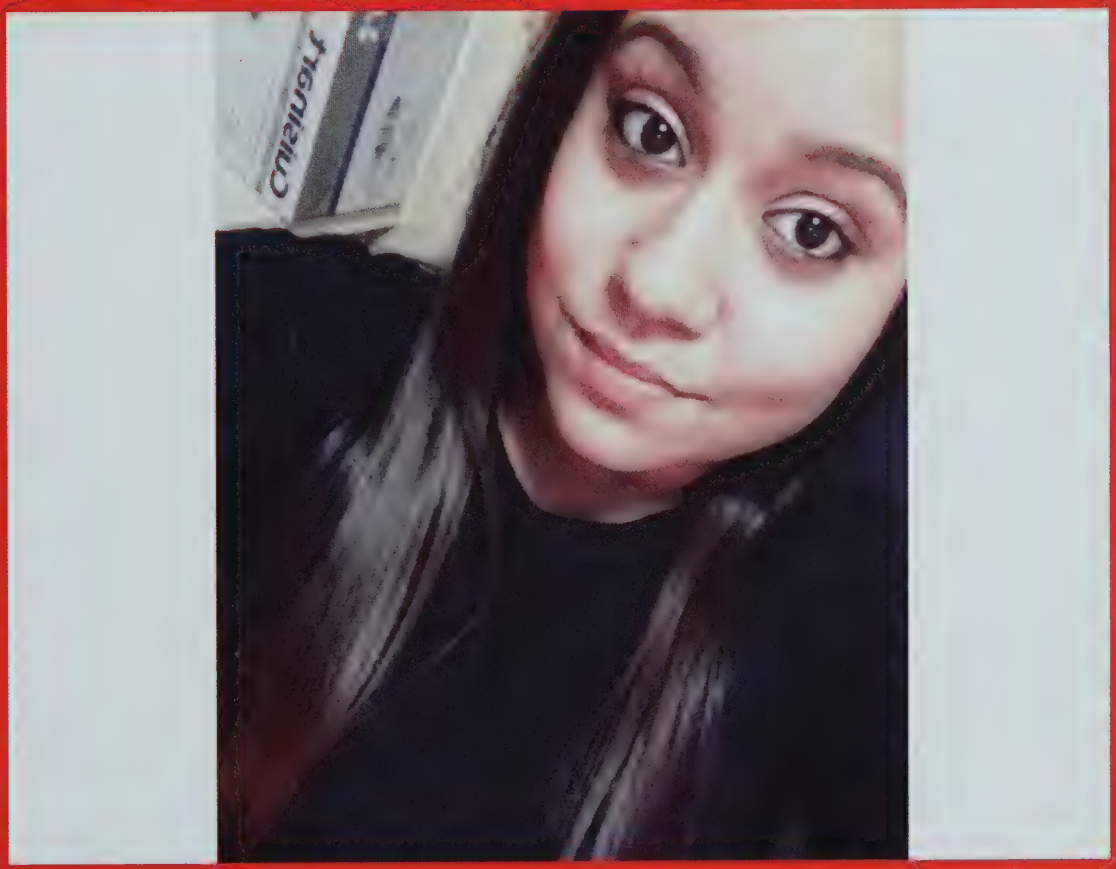




Memories!!

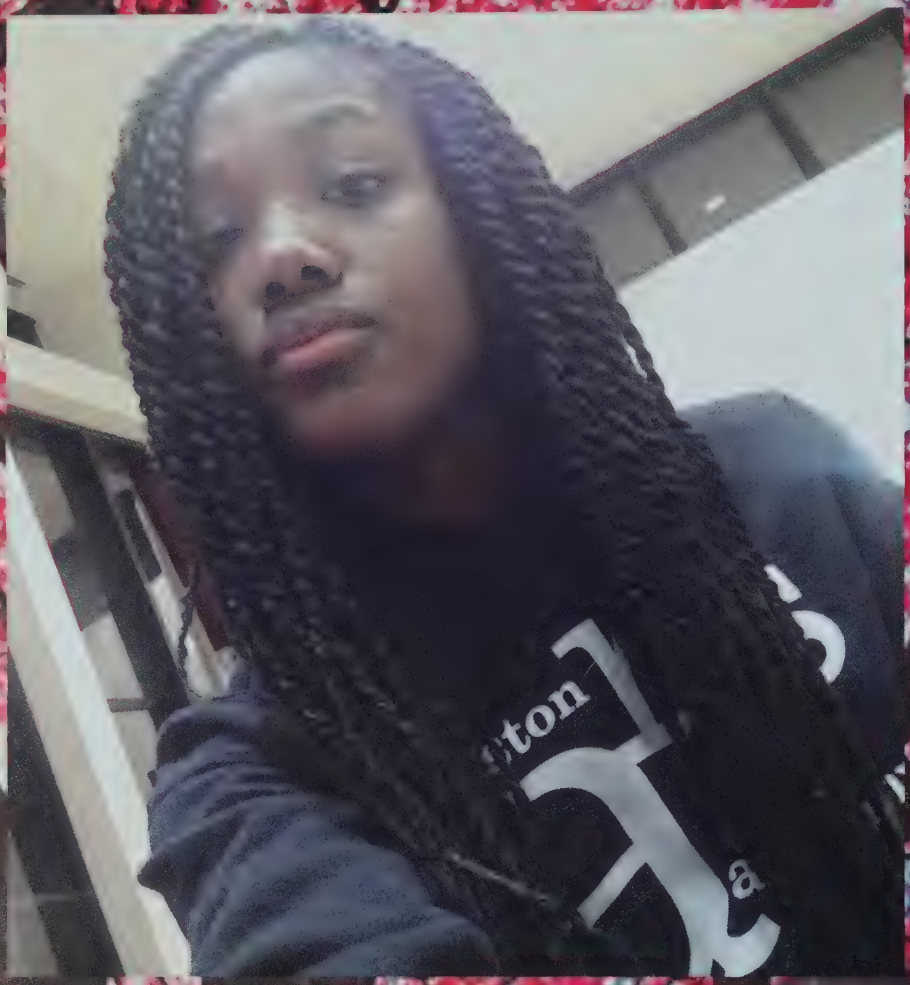
Good
Bye
:)



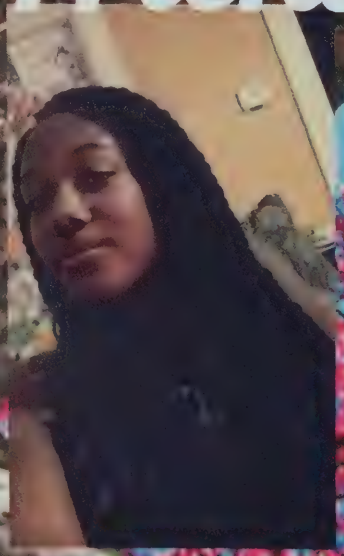


Molly & Martin
Class of 2015!

I have decided to stick with love. Hate
is too great a burden to bear. -Martin
Luther King Jr



SO long Friends :)

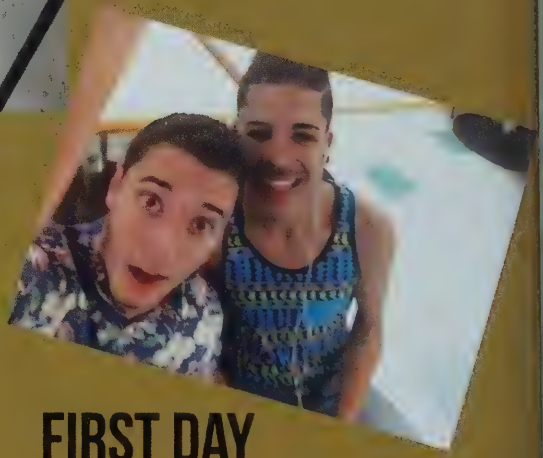


Daddy Is Leaving Me

SELF-PORTRAIT

I'M SUPERBOY :D

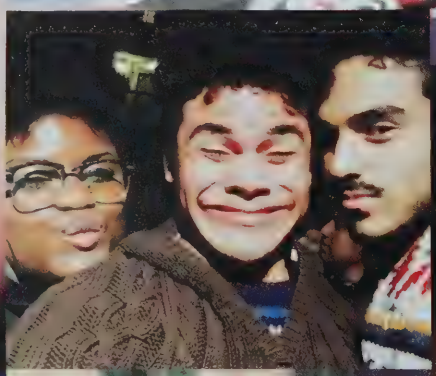
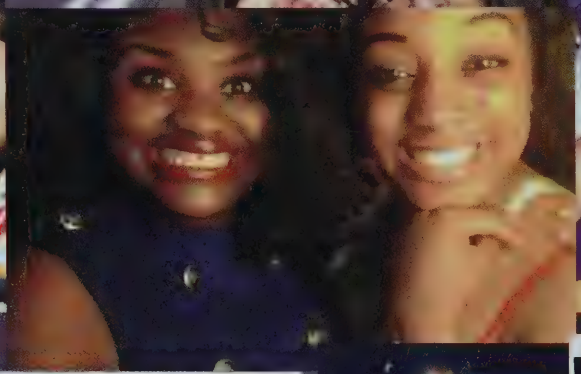
TAKING MICHAEL
FOR A SPIN



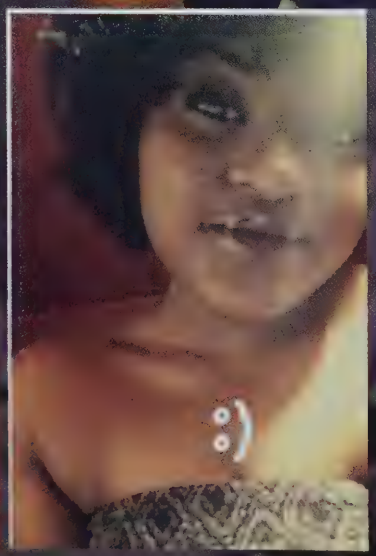
FIRST DAY
AS A SENIOR

Angie

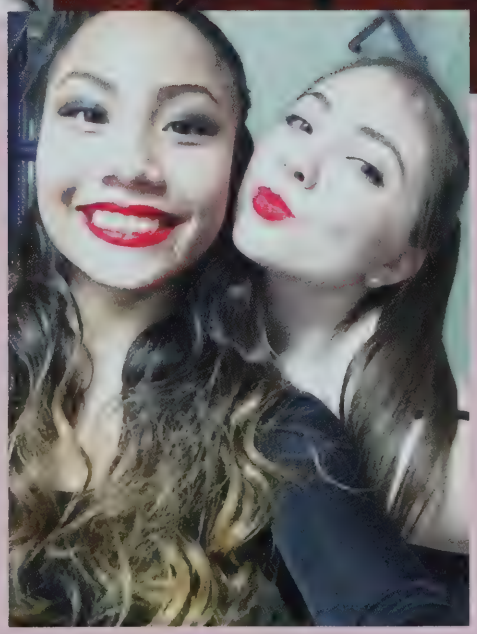
Always walking on sunshine

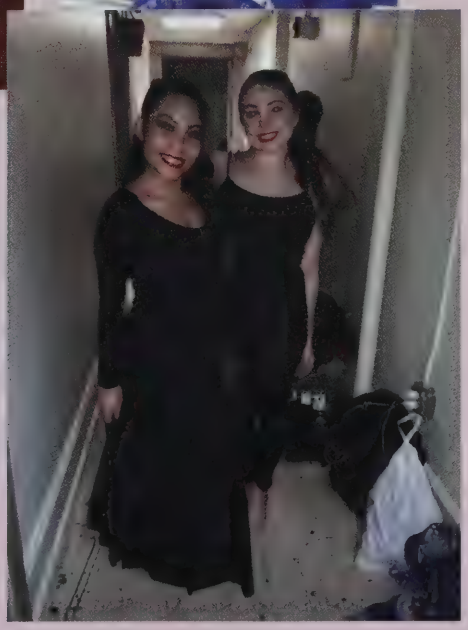



Mmmff



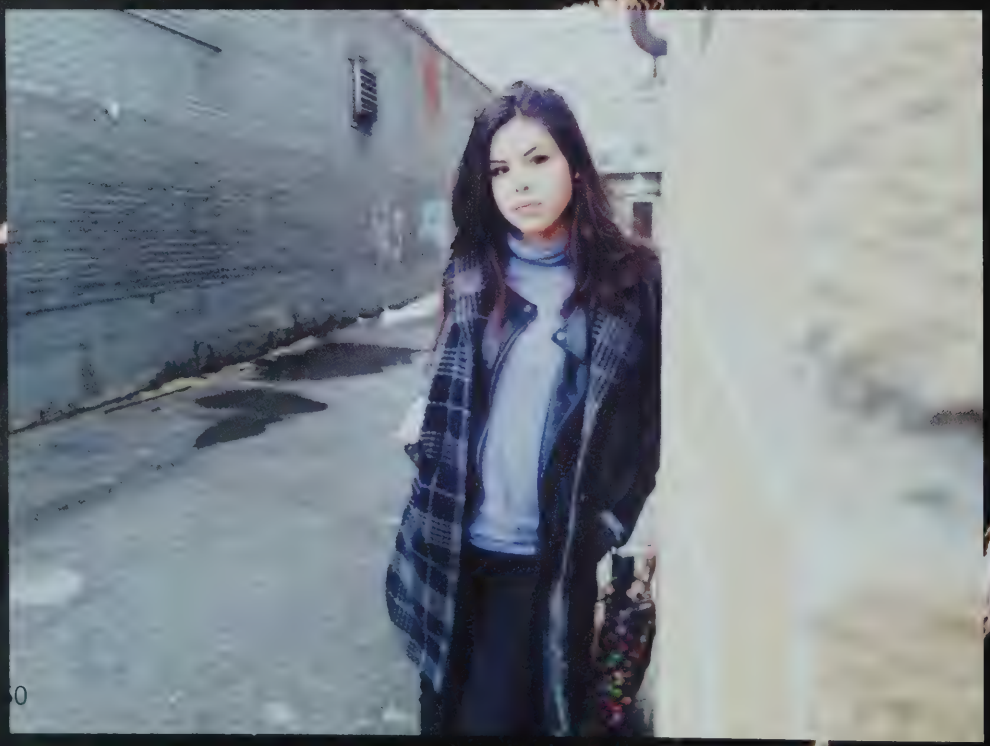
"in spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart."- Anne Frank

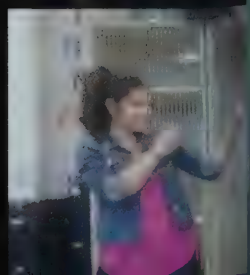




"I'm not superstitious, but I am a little stitious" -

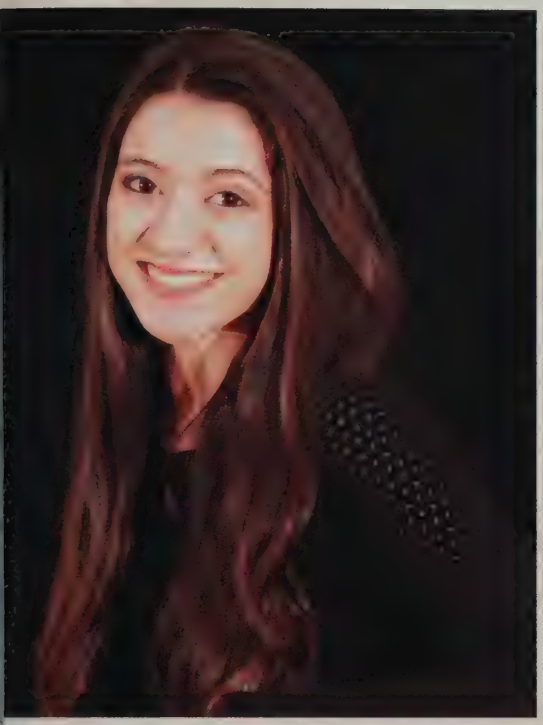
Michael Scott





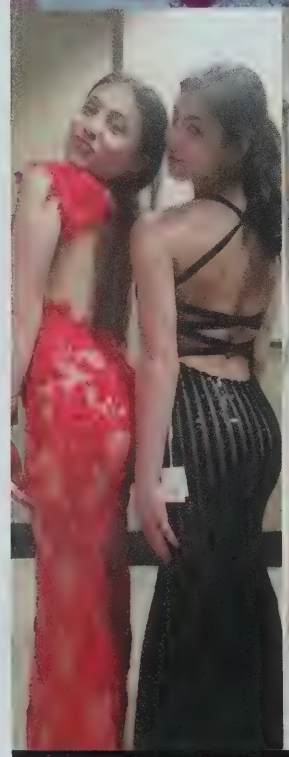
SPOR

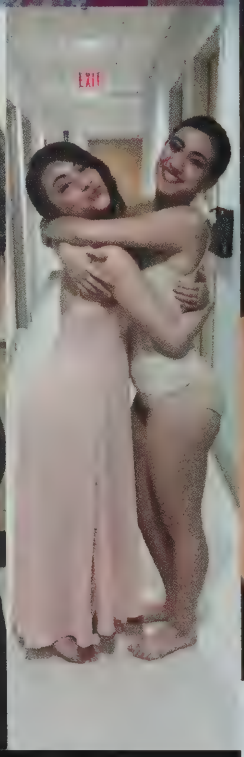
HELP

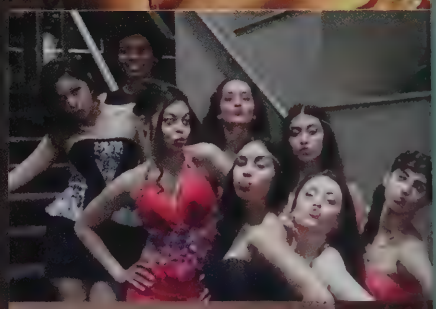


NEVER GIVE UP!

Always wear your invisible Crown

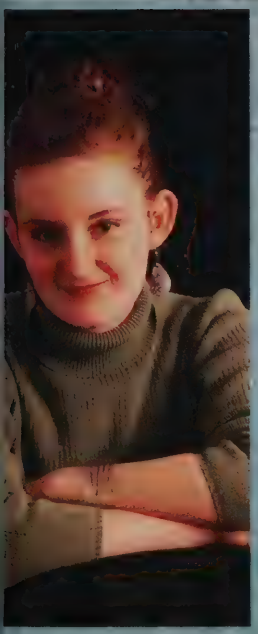




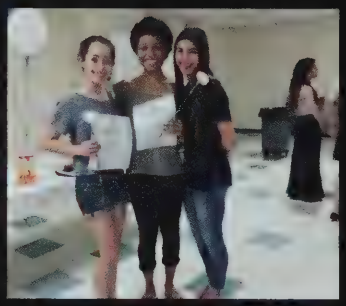


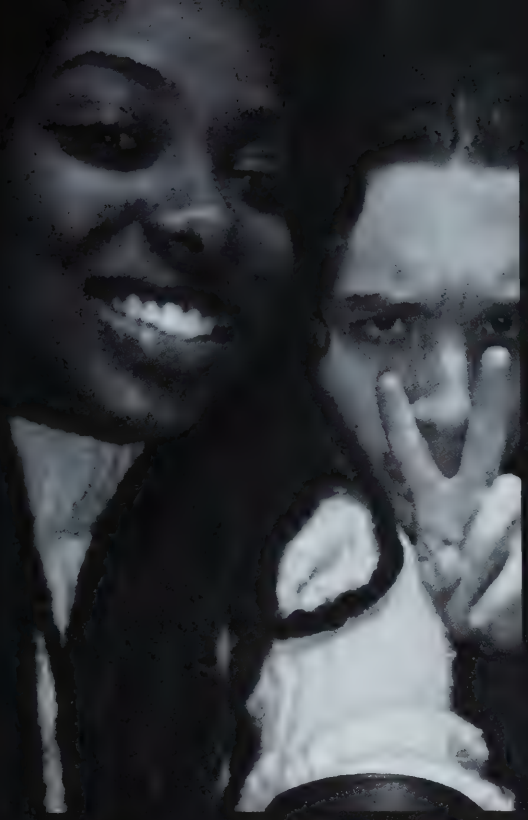
Ever day is a new opportunity to change your life and be who you want to be!

Emilia Onthank

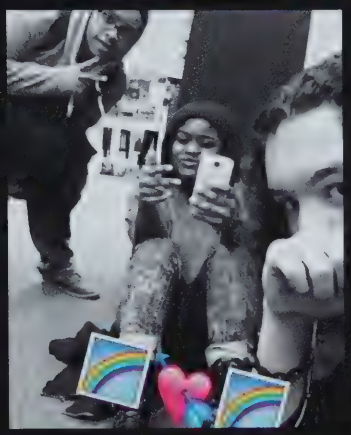


Olivia Hart

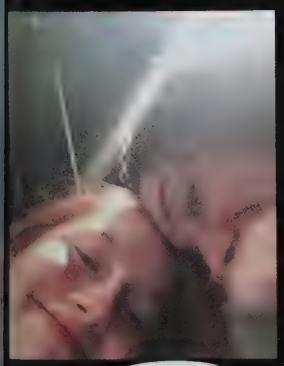


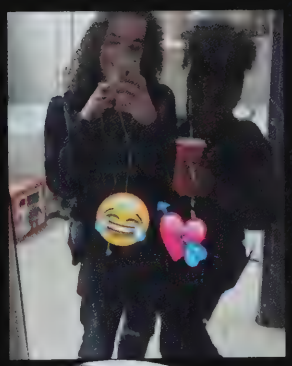


Production of *Fuddy Meers*



Production of *Fuddy Meers*



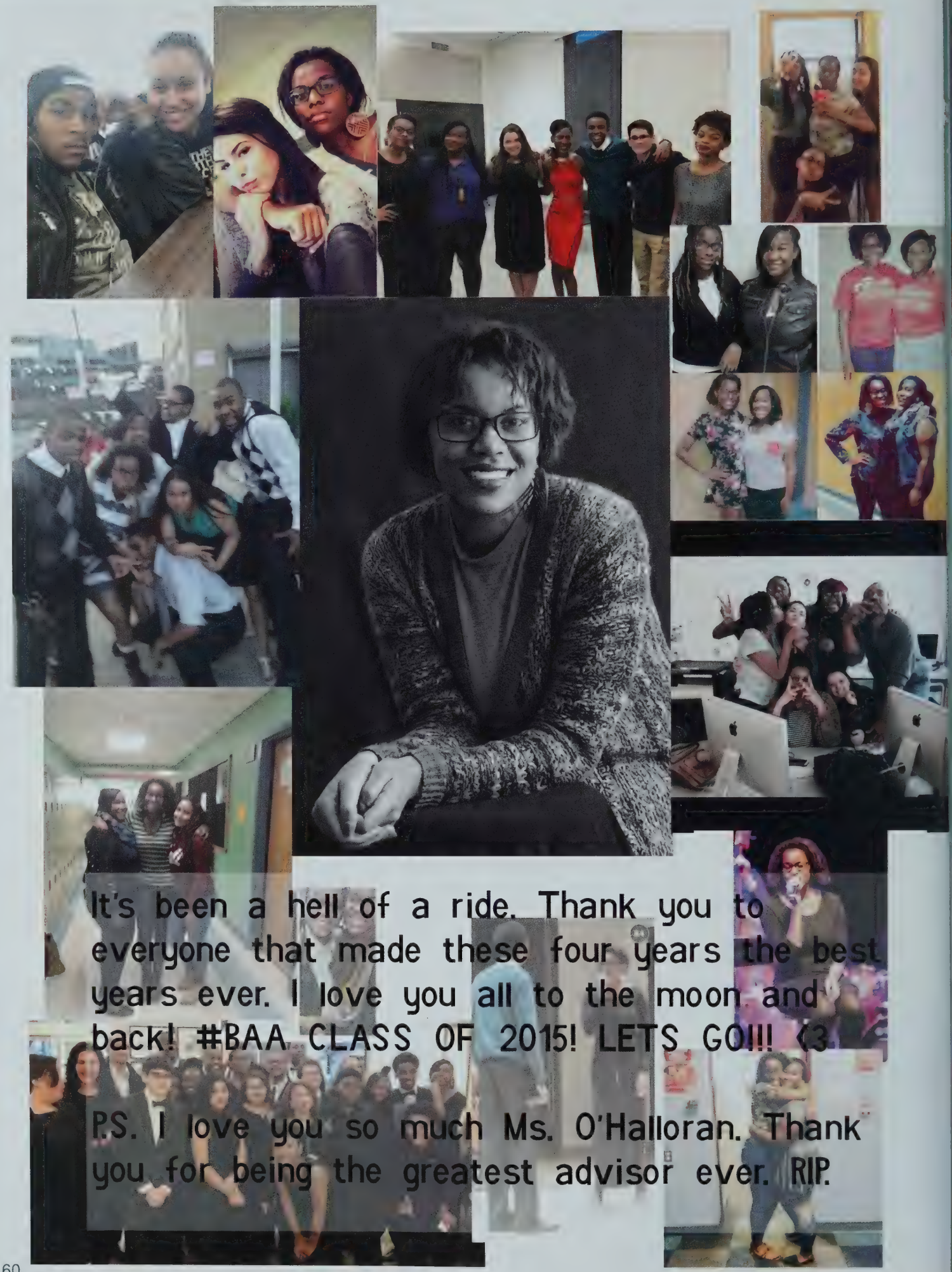


✌ ok

Bye ✌

Jordanna Ryan <3
Dance Major Class of 2015!
"It was always mind over matter when it came to reaching my goals" - Jordanna Ryan '15

Thank you to everyone who made my high school experience the best. Thank you for turning me into an artist, helping me achieve things i never thought i could do. Thank you to my friends who became my family. There's nothing else to say but thank you. If i could turn back time i wouldn't change a thing.



It's been a hell of a ride. Thank you to everyone that made these four years the best years ever. I love you all to the moon and back! #BAA CLASS OF 2015! LETS GO!!! <3

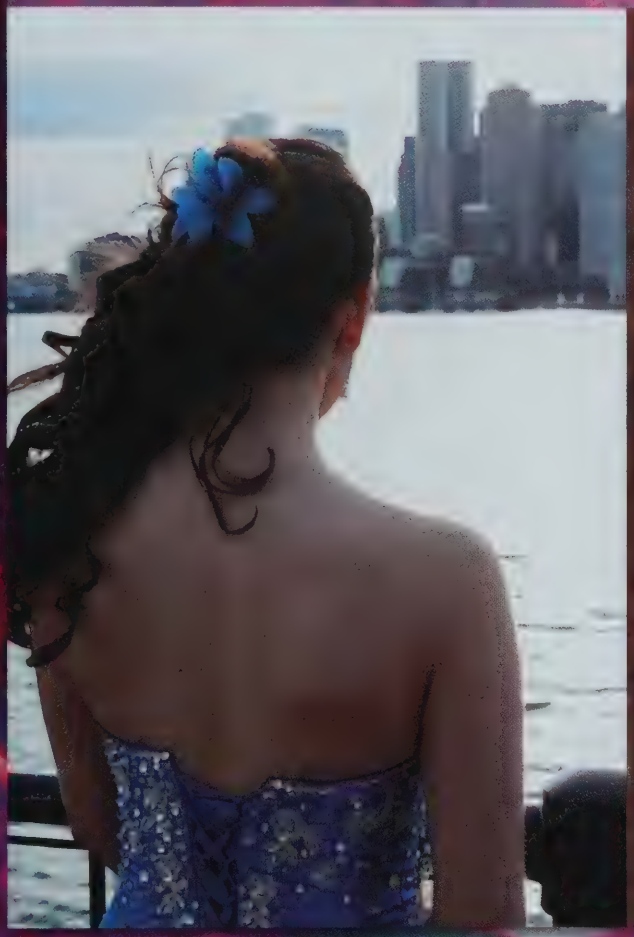
P.S. I love you so much Ms. O'Halloran. Thank you for being the greatest advisor ever. RIP.

Andrea Michelle Juarez

Birthday: February 10th
Favorite Icon: Owl

Arts Major: Dance
Nationality: Guatemala

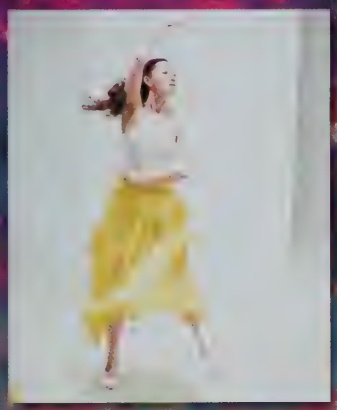
Intended Career: Vet Tech
Plans: Mount Ida College

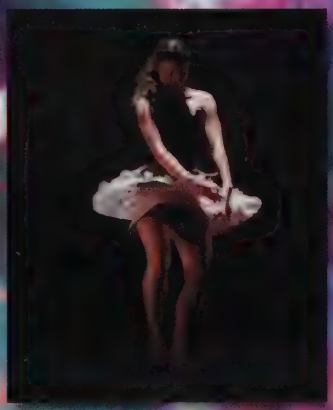


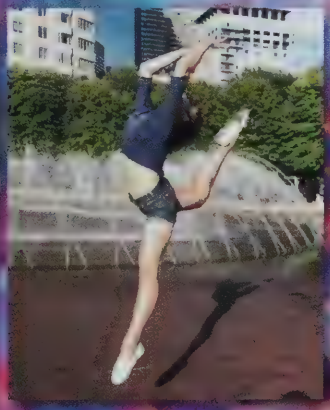
Words to Self:

My love and appreciation for dance has grown over these 4 years. It has helped me to realize that the beauty of movement that reflects off the mirror is only a pure image of the beauty I carry within me. Forever will I be an artist.

Highlights







R.I.P Mi Abuelita Linda, I love and miss you. I'm honored to be your granddaughter. Illuminate the Heavens with your grace. ♥ 4/5/15

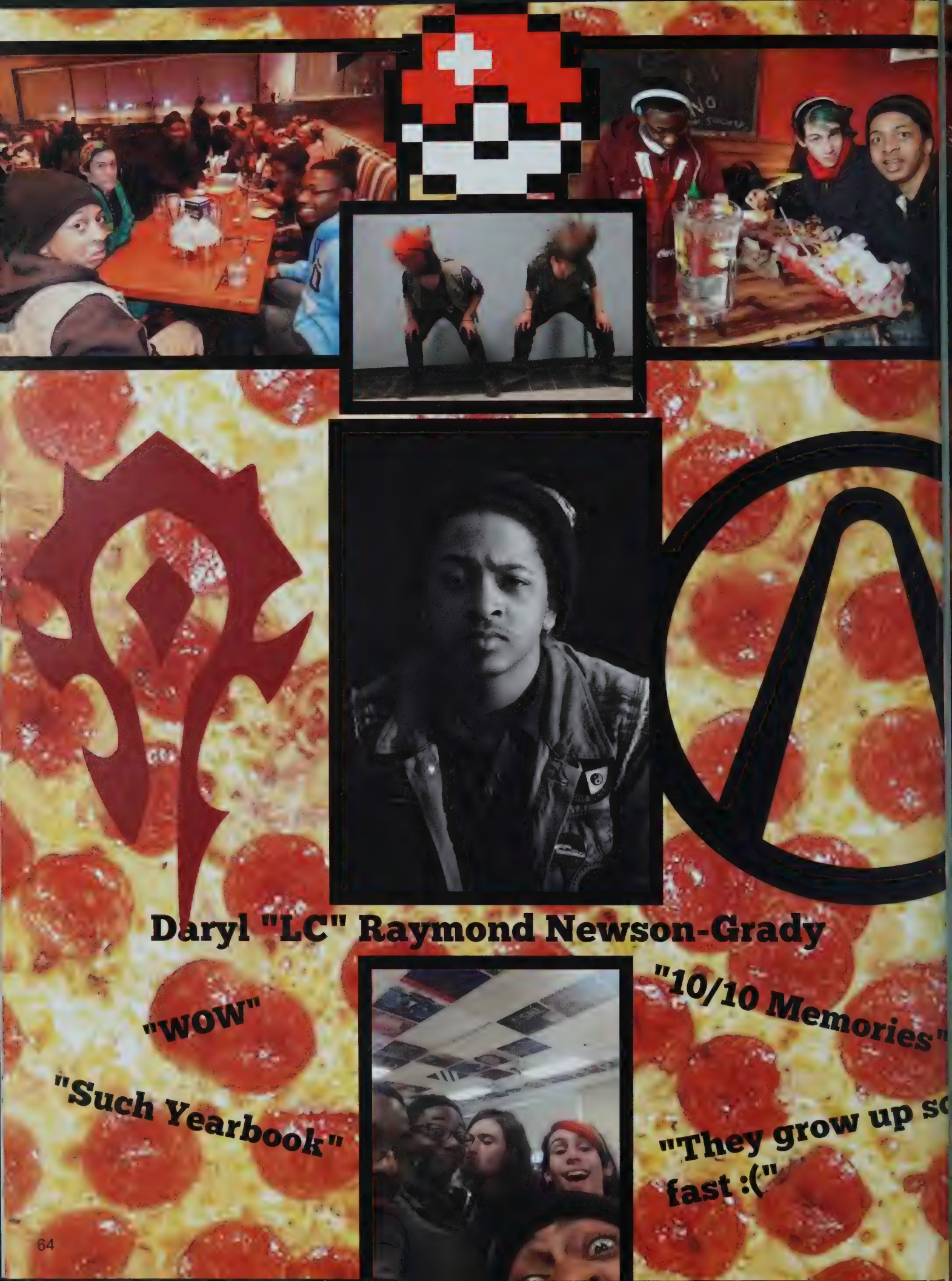
R.I.P Nonni, you will always be in my memories, thank you for assuring me that I would be okay. I know you would have been so proud. ♥ 5/9/12

I want to reach for the stars and shine brightly like them, that way when I depart from this world and join them, I will already know what to do.

Lunar

Isabelle Higgins

NaShaya Nadine Wornum


Daryl "LC" Raymond Newson-Grady
"WOW"
"Such Yearbook"
"10/10 Memories"
"They grow up so fast :("

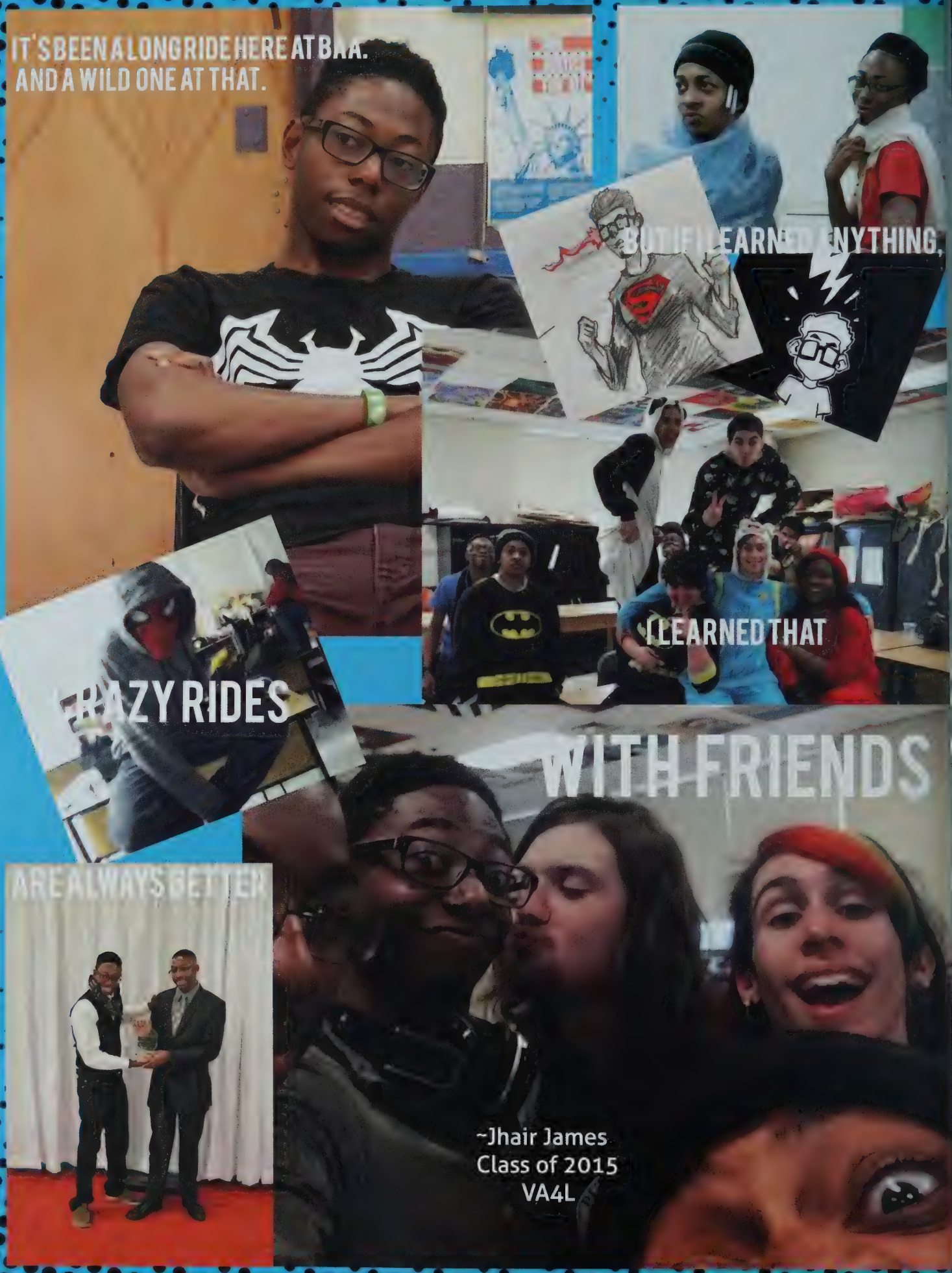
LEAGUE OF LEGENDS

MARICELIZ "QUEEN" ORTEGA

GAME IS LIFE

Besties ↑

BAE



~Jhair James
Class of 2015
VA4L

I have made so many wonderful friends at BAA and I have made strong Bonds. I am Glad I made that life changing decision my freshman year.... I will love and miss you all.

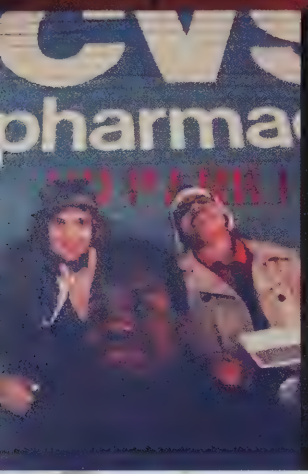
Love, The Quaz

SHOUT OUT TO THE CLASS OF 2015

MFA DAYS

Black Lives Matter Protest!

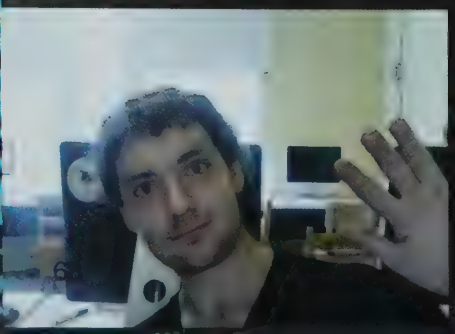
HALLOWEEN 2011



Old Friends...New Times!

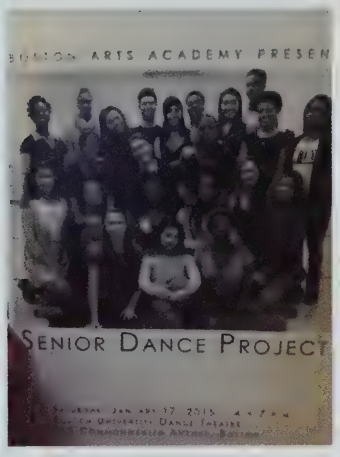
Senior Grant: Pedestrian Safety Awareness!

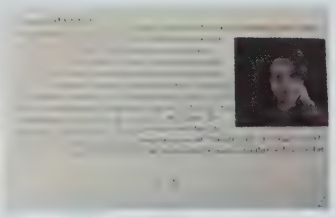
HEAVY METAL CONCERT!



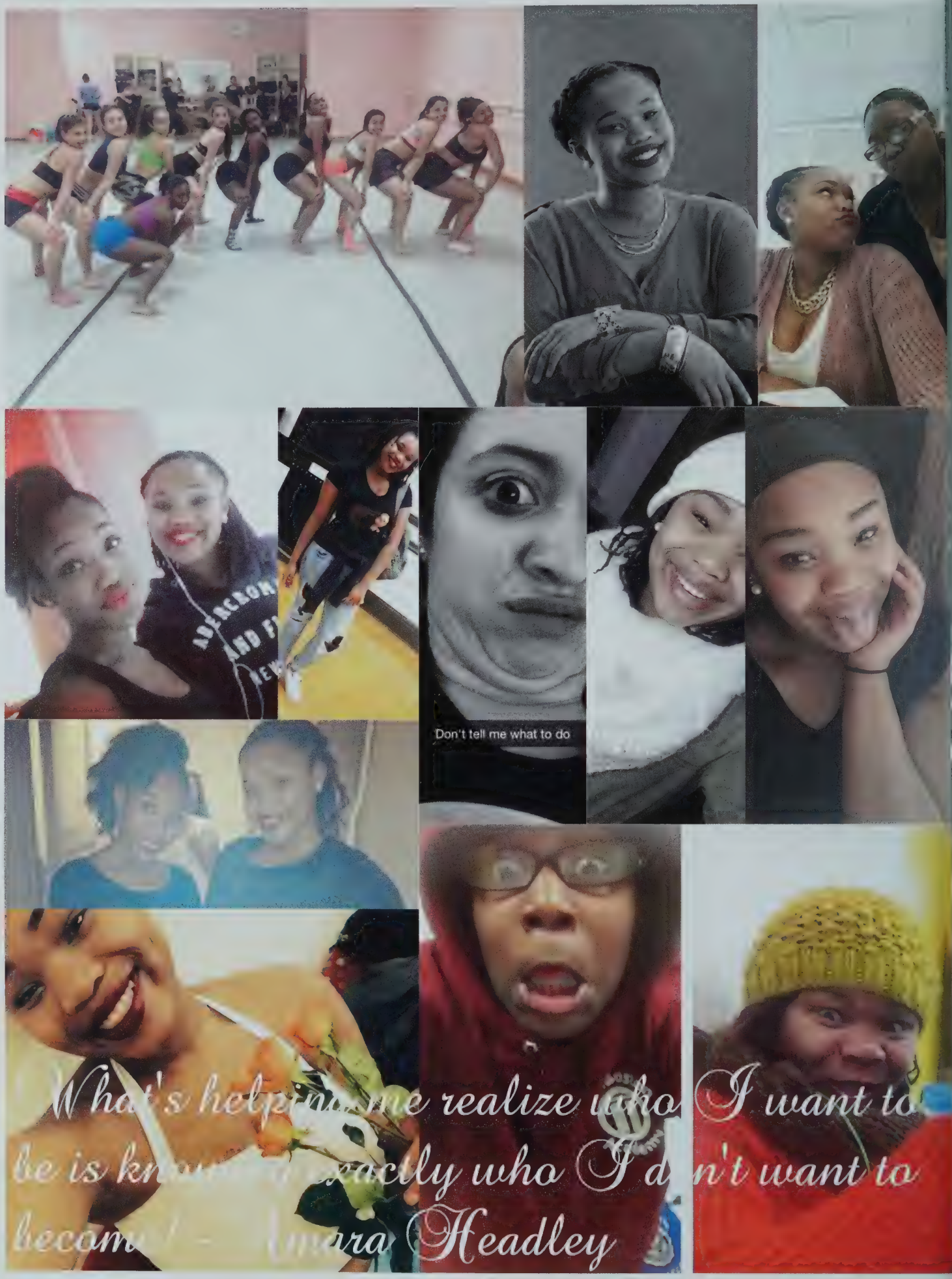
Good times at Putney!

These four years in High School have been a great experience, even all the tough moments I had to face. I overcame and accomplished many things. Being part of this has made me learn more about myself also it made me see so many other things I will accomplish sooner or later. Thank you everyone for the lovely journey. 2015 WE MADE IT!

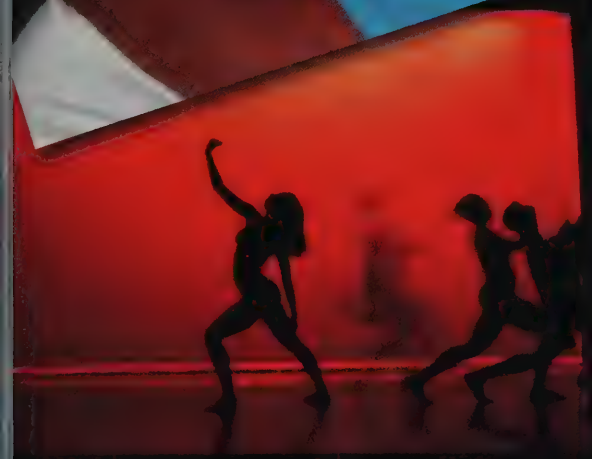




Paola Dominguez

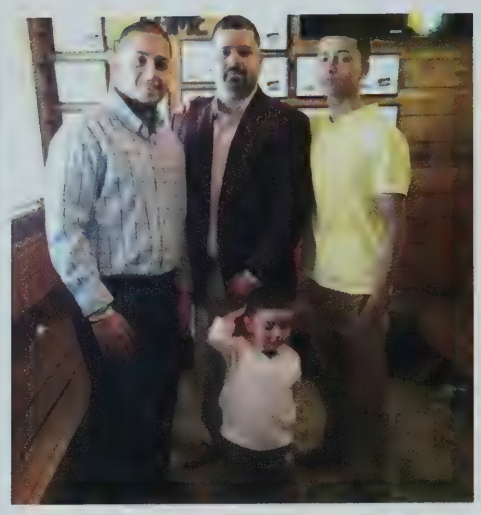


What's helping me realize who I want to be is knowing exactly who I don't want to become. – Amara Headley

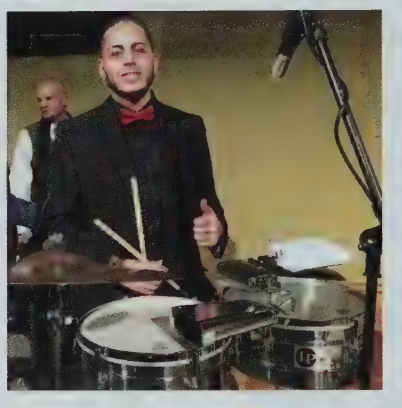


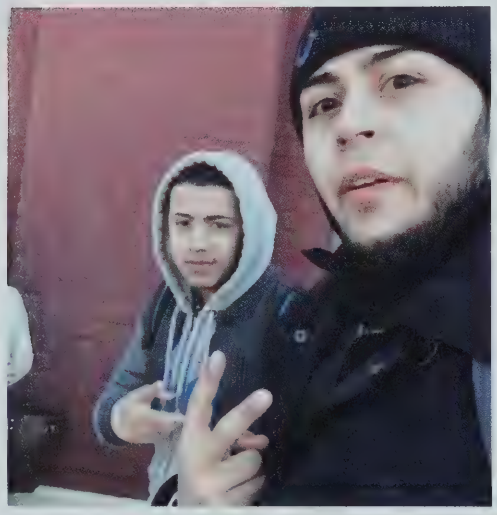
"If it is anyone I should dedicate my success to other than myself, I definitely dedicate it to my grandfather"

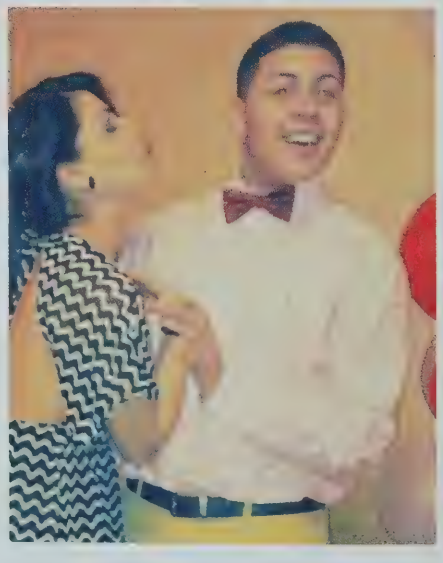
-Brittney Marie Rodriguez

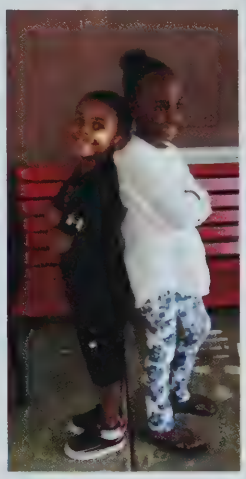


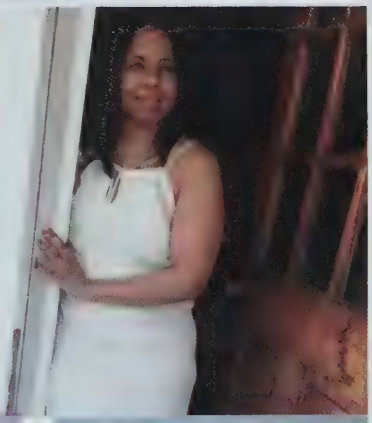
"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"
Philippians 4:13



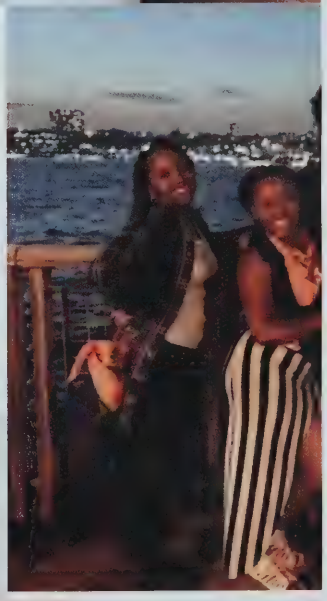


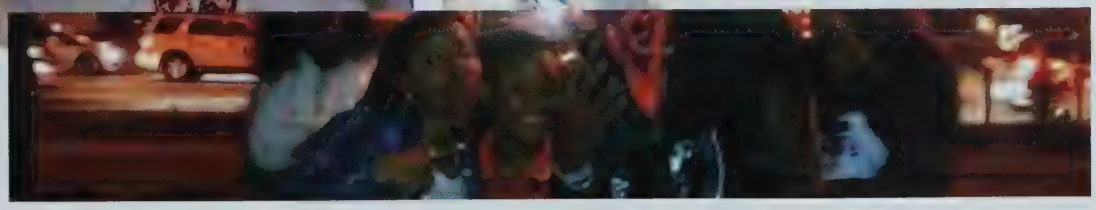


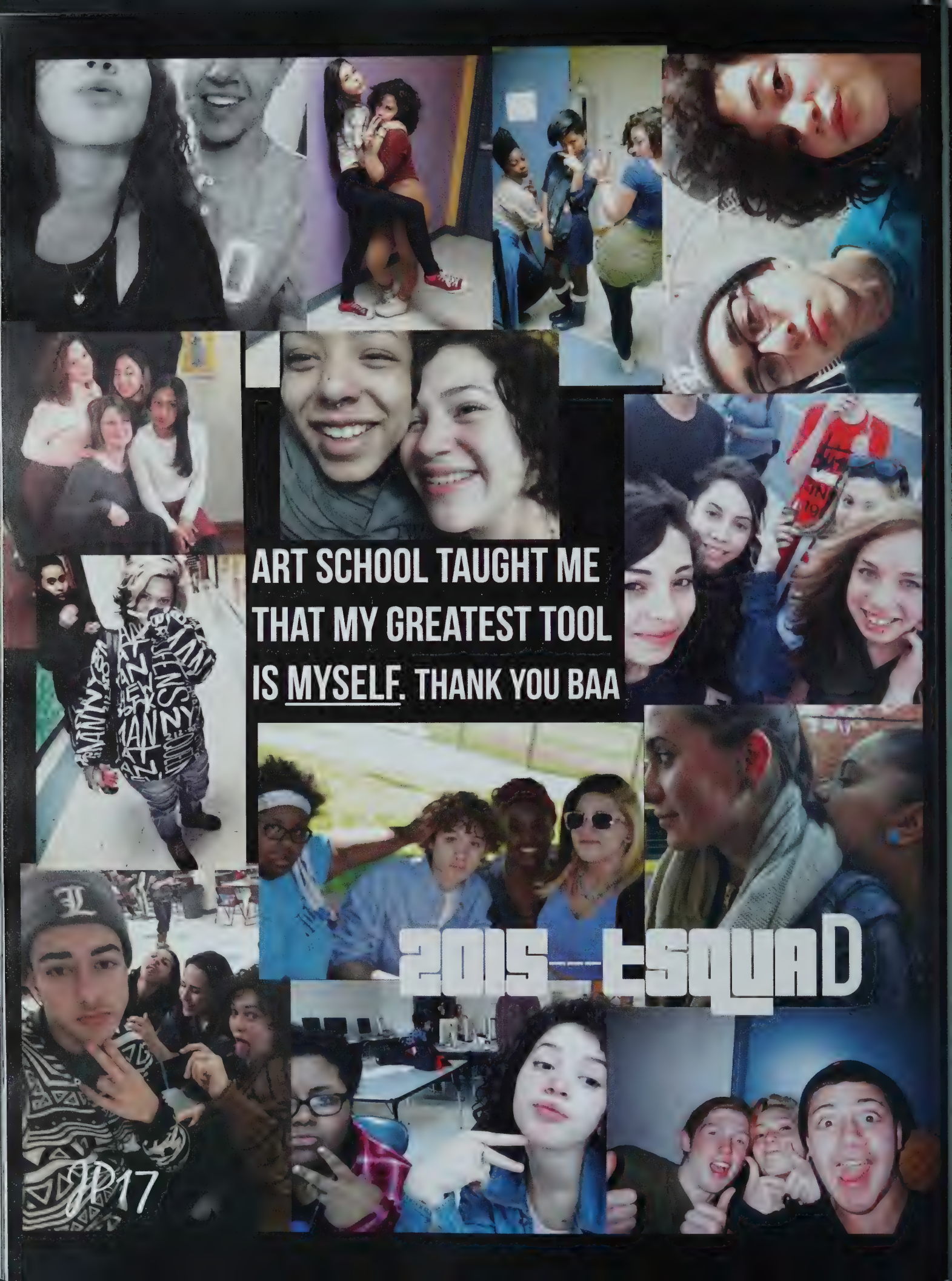


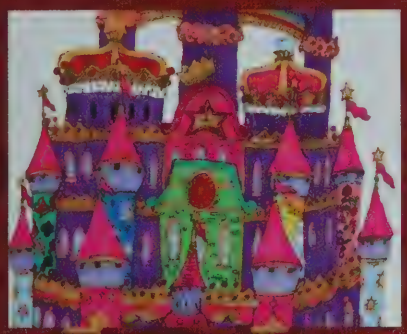


THANDIWE RAMSEY






ART SCHOOL TAUGHT ME
THAT MY GREATEST TOOL
IS MYSELF. THANK YOU BAA
2015 tSQUAD
JP17



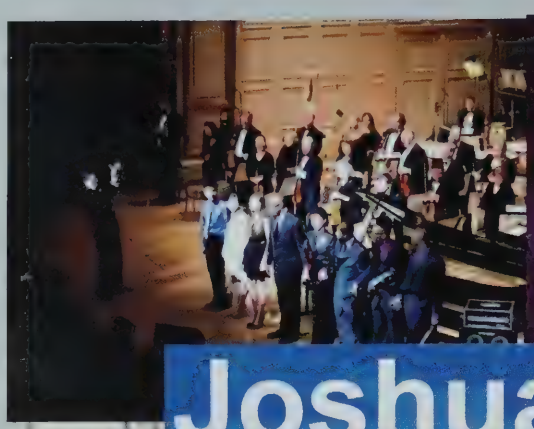
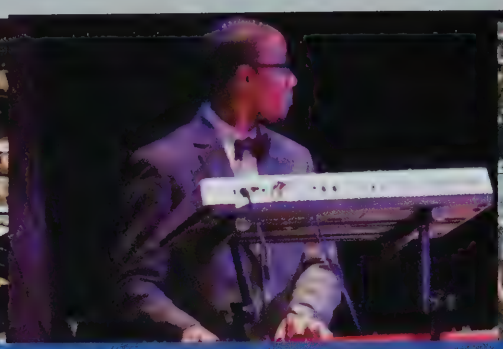
My work mostly involves Fantasy and Comedy put together.

I feel that BAA has helped me to develop my skills and imagination as an artist, now I'm able to create more ideas and stories for my cartoon characters than I ever did before. I also feel that I have had a lot of support from my VA teachers in my skills.

I have grown to know that I can no longer separate the Universe and *I*. The world becomes the physical manifestation of my emotions. How I choose to exist on the inside, directly affects my reality outside. The divine and the mundane are one, that is my truth.

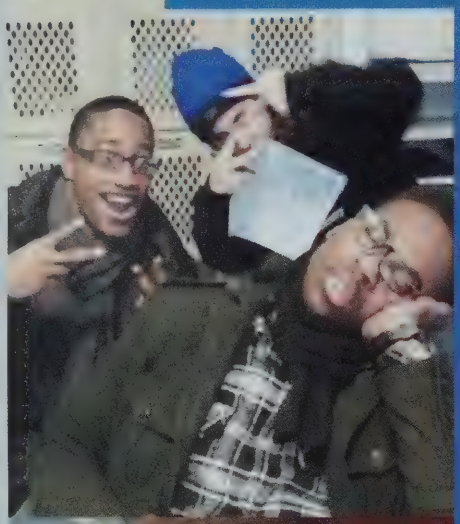
As Above, So Below
Midiyanuel Troy Hawkins

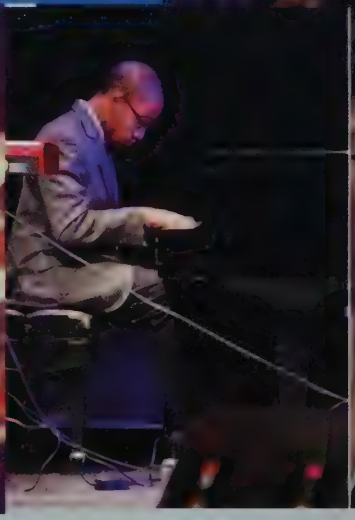
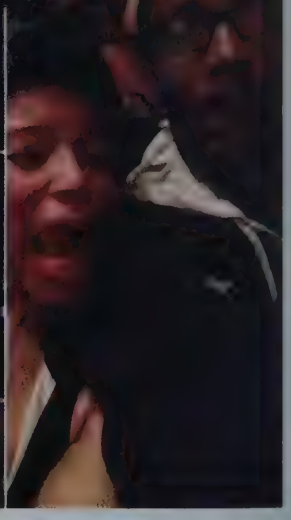
FUDDY MEERS
Twas a good time BAA. Thank you.
T-QUAD 2015
PACIENCIA
Wendy's

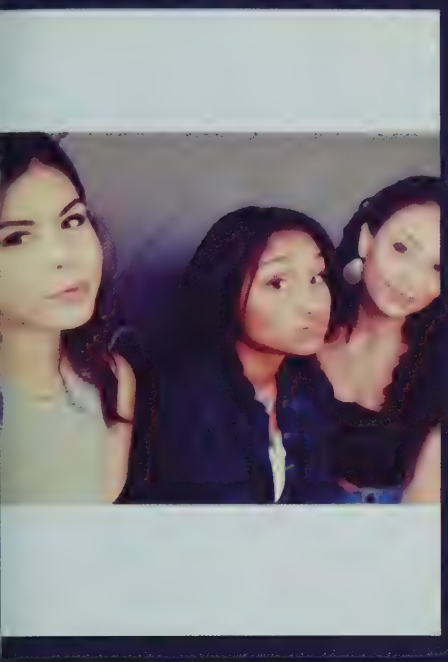



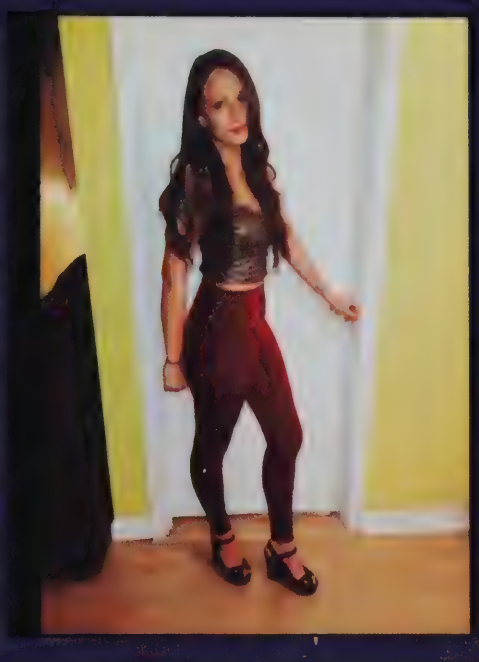
Joshua Sutherland

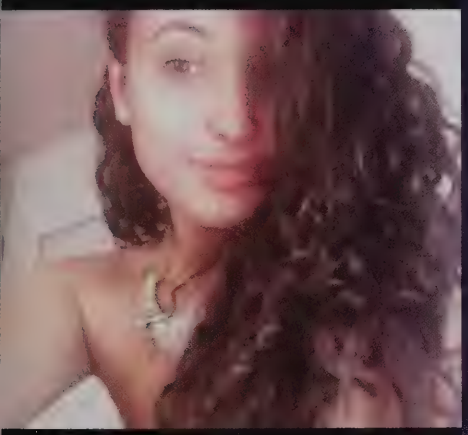
B.A.A. has taught me that art is the only language understood around the world.
#Classof2015



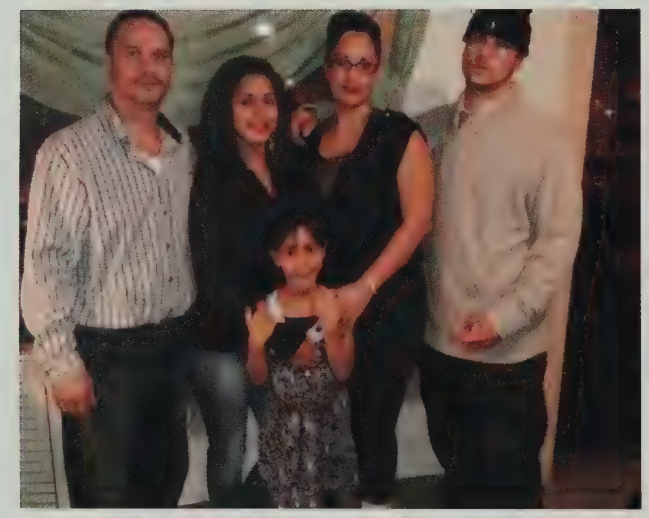



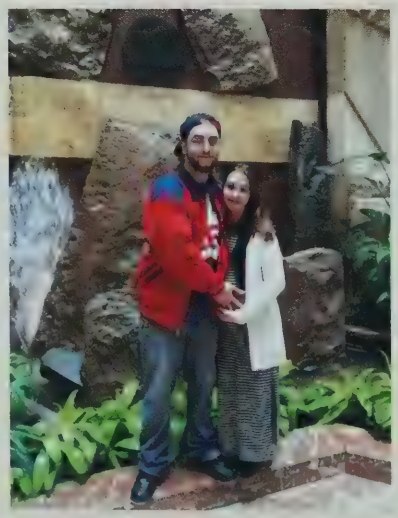






"I'm a funny person"-Me





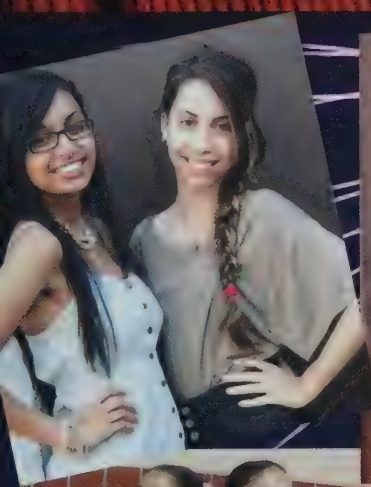
Ivette Marie Gonzalez

This page I dedicate to all the amazing friends I have made on this great journey. This is especially for my amazing, and loving family I am blessed to have you amazing people in my life. Thank you for supporting me and seeing my potential when I could not. I would not be anything without the love and support of my family and friends . I love you guys so much. Fongy!

My journey at this school has taught me many things in life but the most important of all was to do what I love.

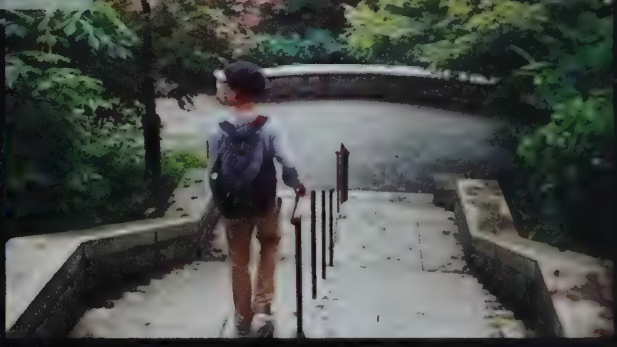
BERLINE CHARLES

Class of 2015 , thank you for all the memories.



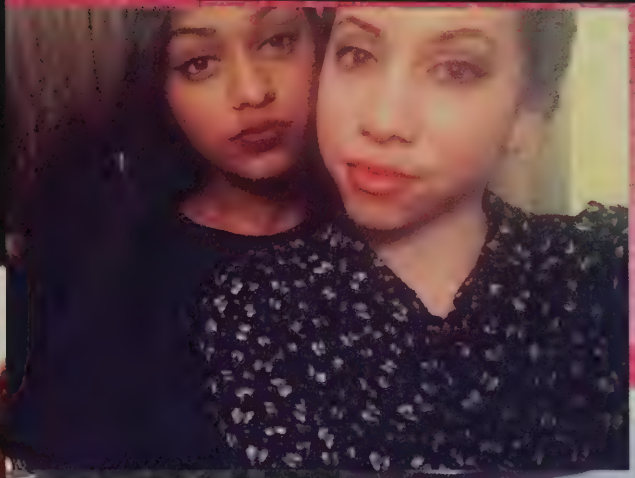
Antonio Shiell-Loomis

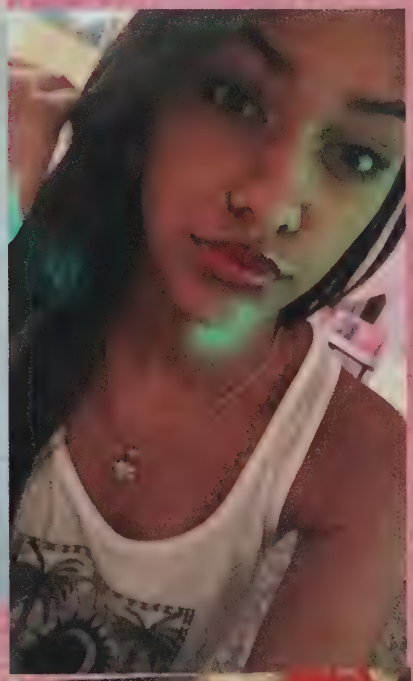
Thanks Class of 2015 for 4 years of great memories!

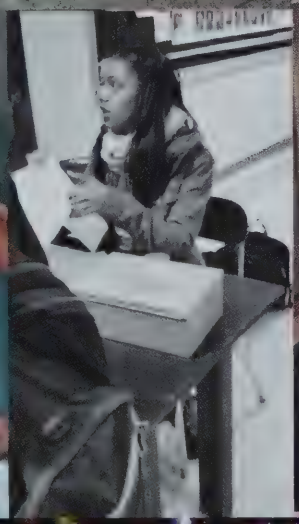


ALEJANDRINA PERCEL

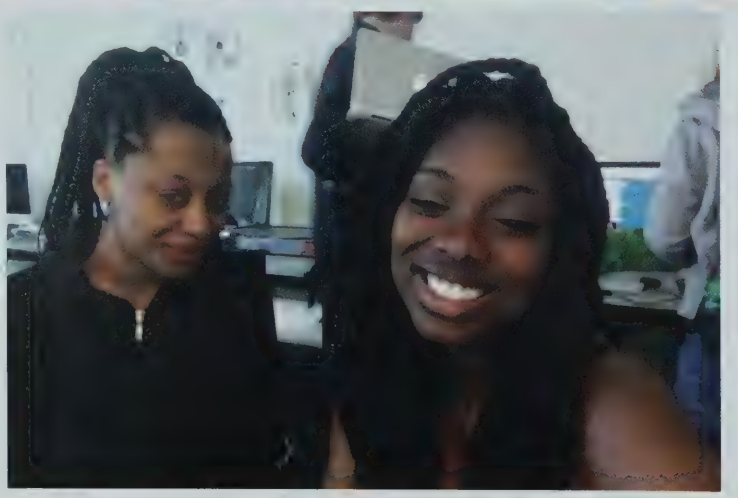
"It's not the goodbyes that hurt, but the flashbacks that follow"

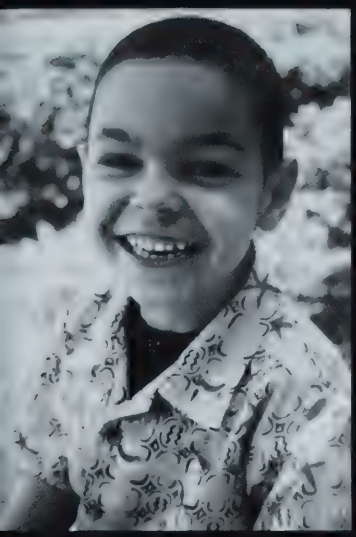


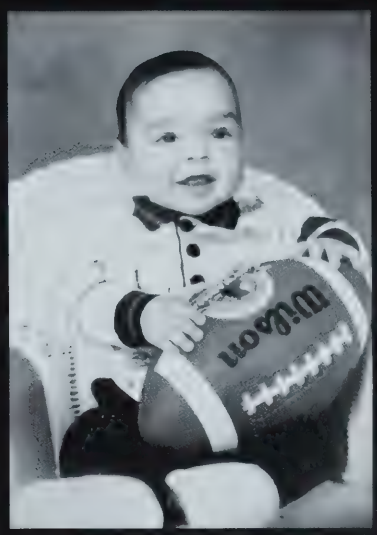


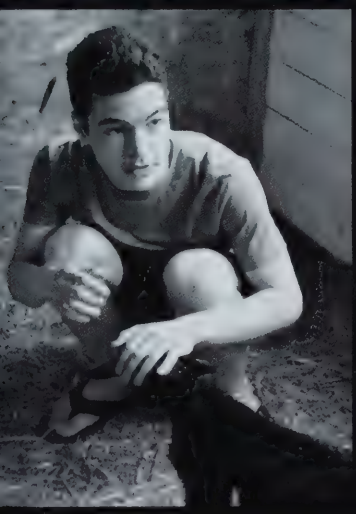


18/VisualArtist/Boston

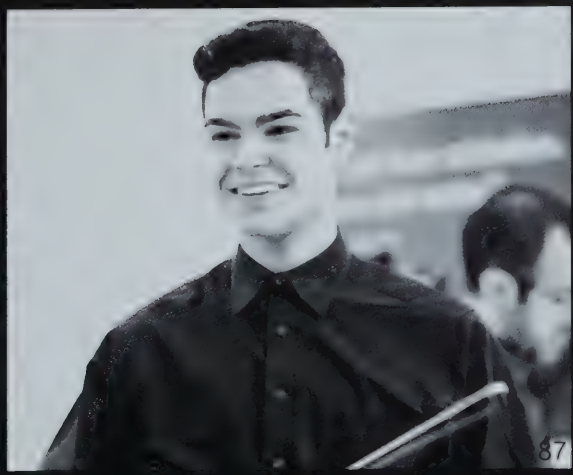


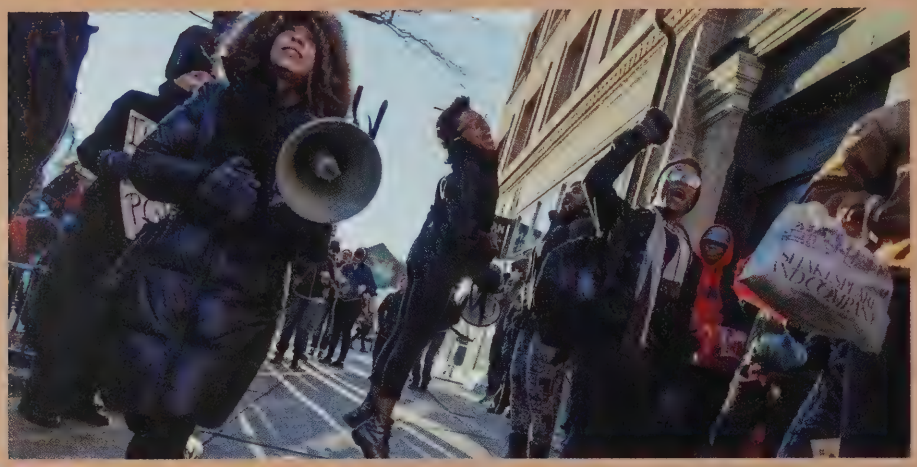


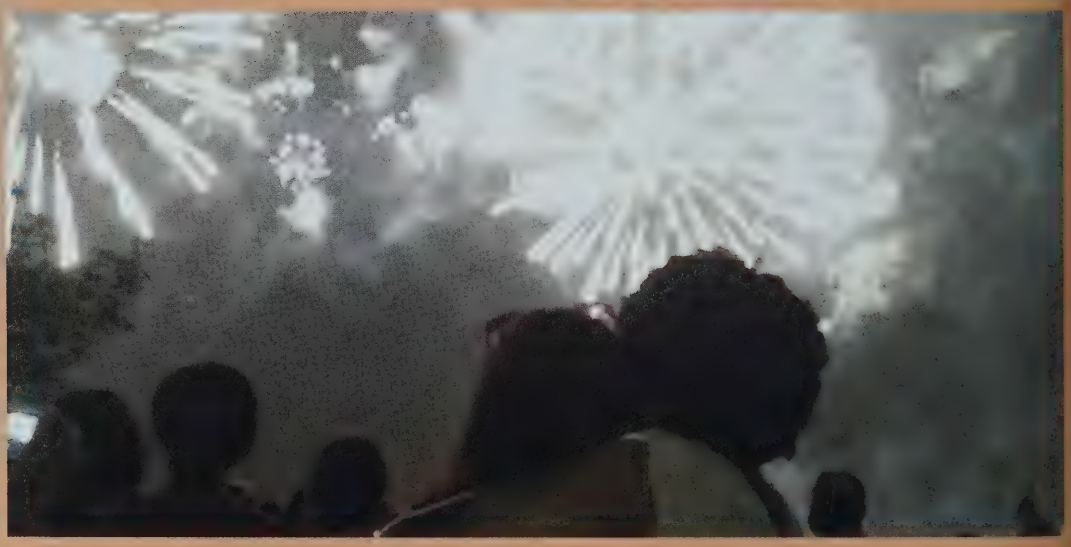




Life and love are what
give color to our
black and white world.





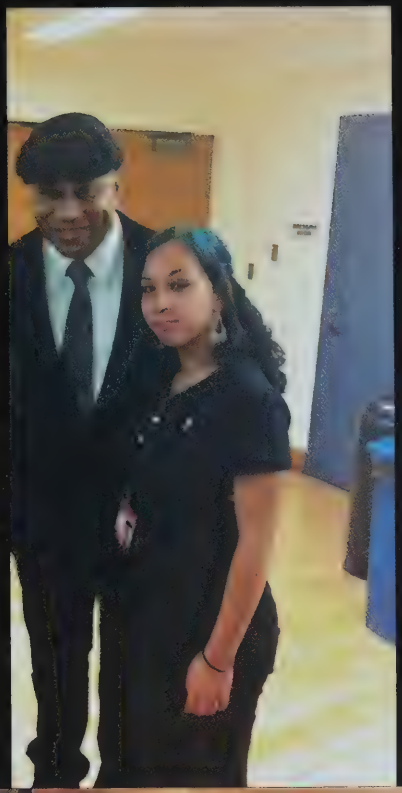


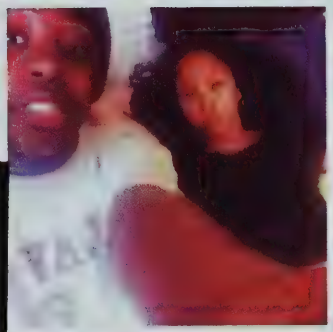
BAA Dance Major 2015 & Hampshire College 2019

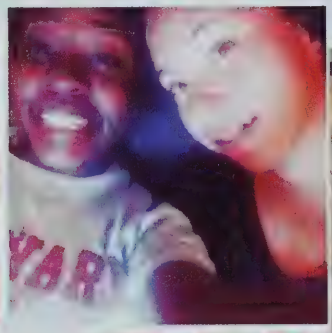
I am thankful for being a part of an institution that allowed safety to be my whole-self, to experience remarkable sights and growth; a period of time where I've built beautiful mentor-ships, friendships, best friendships, and a significant relationship.

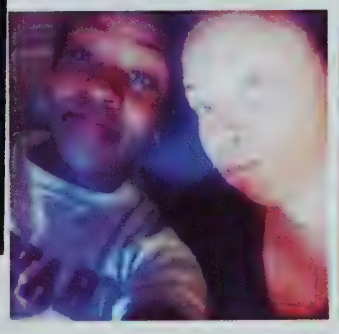
Abrazos---Be loud and demand,

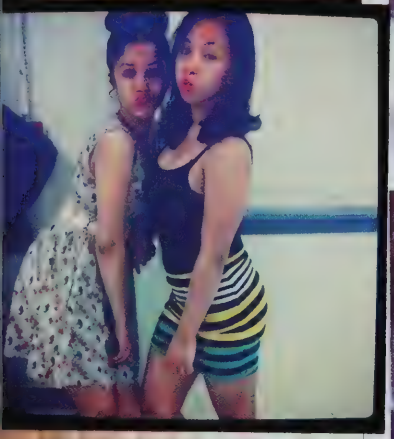
Nadia Issa

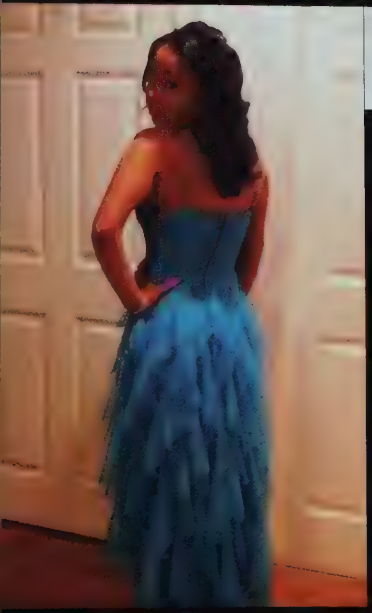




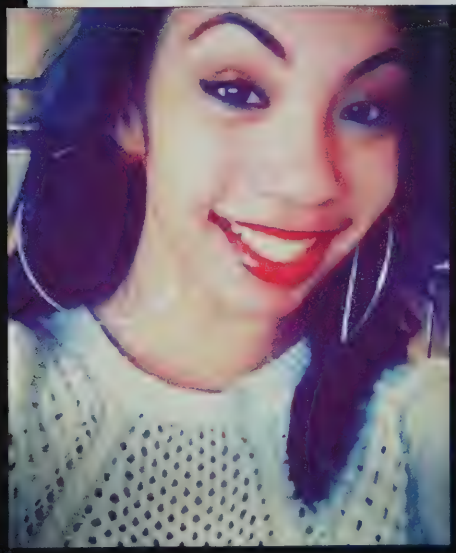




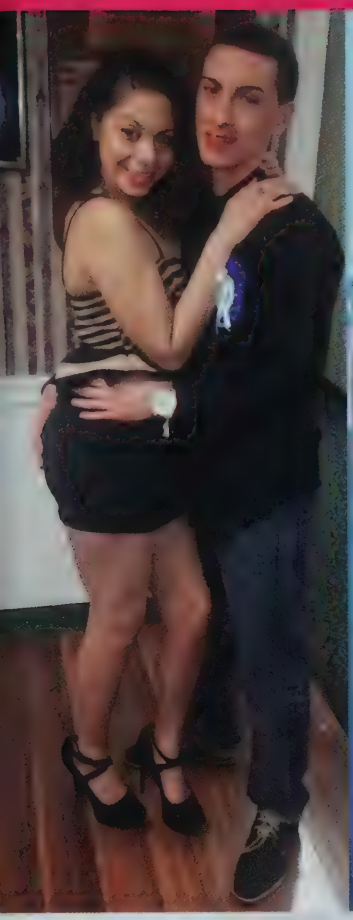




If you obey all the rules, you miss all the fun :)



my love is greater than most
expect it to be. Open your
hearts and get to know the
real me.
Kanisha Machado

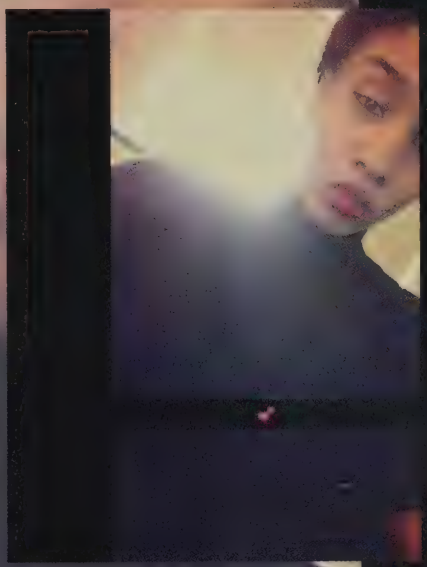


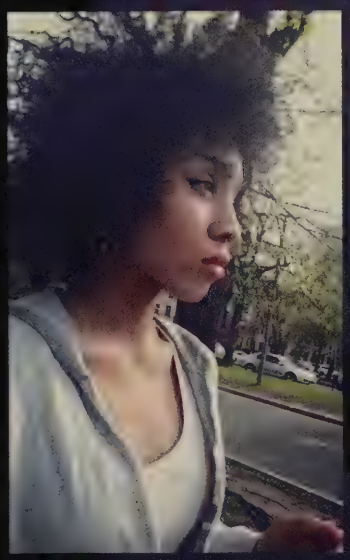
In order to move on in our lives, we must understand that everything happens for a reason. Love. Learn. Live.
Kenisse Machado

It's not about where you came from. It's about where you're going !
-Miguel Lilly

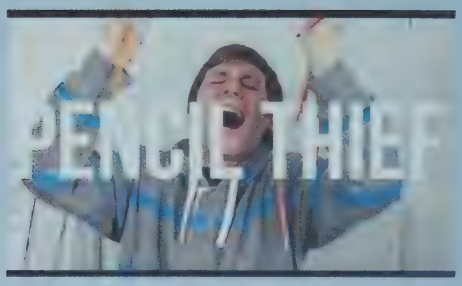
Dance Major
2015

Boston Conservatory
Class of 2019
Legs For Days !





YOU KNOW YOU GO TO BAA WHEN...



When you've gotta keep an eye on your pencils.

The teachers truly love the students

Students pretend to have injuries to get on the elevator

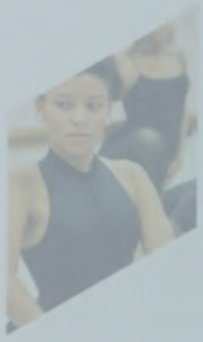
Your school mascot is a sheep

Nobody can explain what seminar is

You practically live here

Teachers have a secret YouTube channel to rehearse for their lunch dance outbreaks/safety assembly

The hat rule is abolished

It's time to leave ... And no one leaves

You hear musicians' drums drumming, dancers do theater majors acting....& the VA's lost nowhere to be found...ohh wait they have their own floor....